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January 24, 1980

Vigo County Public Library
222 North Seventh Street
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807

Dear Librarian:

In response to your TWX of 1/24/80, the following information was acquired from the Warden's Office of the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City:

Last person executed in Indiana under the death penalty:
Richard E. Kiefer, executed on June 15, 1961.

Last person sentenced to death in Indiana: Larry Hicks,
sentenced on September 1, 1978 in Lake County

Last person sentenced to death in Vigo County who was
executed: Willis Fuller, executed at the State Prison
on January 14, 1938.

Last person sentenced to death in Vigo County: Whittaker
(could not supply first name or date)

Number of people now on death row: 4, all with indefinite
stays of execution, all pending appeal.

I was not able to locate any additional information concerning Whittaker. The Indiana State Prison reports do not give names of prisoners. Since he was not executed, I was not able to determine any further information.

Since Willis Fuller was executed, I determined the following from the reports (there was only one execution on January 14, 1938, so I am assuming that it was Fuller): Prisoner number 18423; age 30; race, white; born, Illinois; mental condition, dull; physical condition, fair; marital status, divorced; admitted to prison, 11-16-36. This was the only other information that I could locate on Fuller. Please check your local newspapers around the date of his execution and the date of his admission to the State Prison. Perhaps you will be able to locate an article on this man.

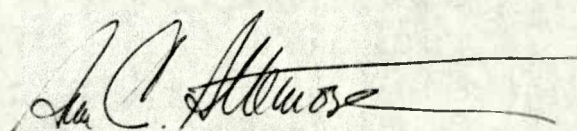
GENERAL
EXECUTIONS

Vigo County Public Library
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807
January 24, 1980
Page 2

I am sorry that we cannot provide information on Whittaker.
Perhaps you will be able to locate something locally.

I hope this information is helpful to you. If we may be of
any future assistance, please feel free to contact us again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ann C. Altemose", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ann C. Altemose
Reference Librarian
Indiana Division

CRIME AND CRIMINALS (VIGO COUNTY)

First Hanging in Vigo County
Henry Dyas killed George Brock in October of
1843. Convicted June 4, 1844 & hanged July
5, 1844.

Second Hanging in Vigo County
? Morgan hanged Dec. 23, 1869 for murder of
John Petri.

Crime and Criminals
(CTH)
Vigo County Public Library
REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE
Community Affairs File

GENERAL

EXECUTIONS

CRIME AND CRIMINALS (VIGO COUNTY)

Vigo County Men Executed for Crimes at State
Prison, 1900--

1. Moses Alexander murdered Thomas A. Burke
in Terre Haute on Sept. 7, 1902. Executed
April 16, 1903.
2. Benjamin Springs murdered Jesse Case on
Feb. 15, 1904. Executed July 1, 1904.
3. Jerry Duggins Murdered Sarah Ramsey and
her two children on Feb. 22, 1904. Executed
July 8, 1904.

CRIME AND CRIMINALS (VIGO COUNTY)

II.

4. Harry Rascio killed his wife and 2-year
old son Sept. 13, 1913. Executed Feb. 20, 1914
5. Gaston Slaughter killed Terre Haute policeman
Walter Lanfair on Aug. 4, 1934. Executed
April 17, 1936.
6. Willis Fuller killed Deputy Sherill Paul
Mankin on July 17, 1936. Executed Jan. 14,
1938

'McVEIGH ONCE WAS AS NORMAL AS ANYONE'

Profile of a terrorist

Gradual change led McVeigh from 'boy next door' to Oklahoma City bomber

By KARIN GRUNDEN
Tribune Star

Liz McDermott can still picture the lanky, teen-ager with a perm who had a big appetite but never put on a pound.

He was a typical kid who got into his share of trouble but was always polite and respectful of adults.

How this same boy - Timmy McVeigh - the trusted baby-sitter, could become Timothy

"It's impossible to understand how or why he did this. I never saw a Tim McVeigh who did this."

Liz McDermott, former neighbor who occasionally left her children in the young man's charge.

She found it difficult putting together the McVeigh she knew and the terrible act he committed in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, when he bombed the

Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, killing 168 people.

"It's like a totally different person," she said.

What happened in McVeigh's life was no instant transformation from the boy next door to mass murderer, attorney Richard Bury said.

Instead, it was a gradual psychological and emotional reversal of his opinion of the United States - brought on by his service in the Gulf War and compounded by the federal sieges at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, and the Branch Davidian Compound in Waco, Texas.

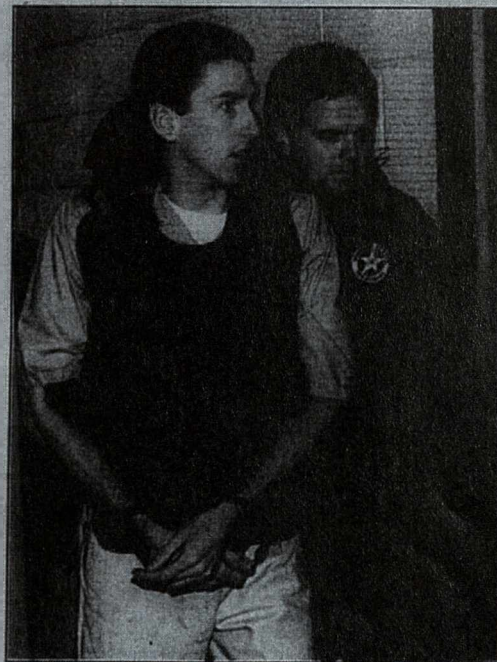
"It was not that he went from true believer in the United States to true hater. He went from true believer to terribly disillusioned," said Bury, one of McVeigh's attorneys.

McVeigh once was as normal as anyone, Bury said.

THE EARLY YEARS

The middle child of Bill and Mildred "Mickey" McVeigh, Timothy James McVeigh was born April 23, 1968, in Lockport, N.Y. Older sister Patty was almost 2 at the time, and younger sister Jennifer was born nearly six years later.

► Turn to McVEIGH, A6



Under heavy security, Timothy McVeigh is led to a court hearing in 1996 at Oklahoma City. Long before April 19, 1995, the convicted bomber was a normal youth, even babysitting for the neighbors, before becoming disillusioned with the country he represented in the Gulf War.

Lethal injection will be painless, coroner says

By KARIN GRUNDEN
Tribune Star

The clock sits low on the wall of the Terre Haute death chamber, ticking second-by-second closer to Monday's 7 a.m. execution of Timothy McVeigh.

In just two days, a deadly cocktail of drugs will course through the body of the 33-year-old Oklahoma City bomber, taking about four or five minutes before he will take his final breath, experts said. The first drug will put him to sleep.

The second will paralyze his muscles.

The third will stop his heart. "It will be a very painless death," said Vigo County Coroner Dr. Susan S. Amos, who is responsible for signing his death certificate.

At about 6 a.m. Monday, a "restraint team" will enter the 9- by 14-foot holding room at the U.S. Penitentiary execution facility where McVeigh will be this weekend.

He'll be strip-searched and will then dress in khaki pants, a white T-shirt and slip-on tennis shoes, according to Bureau of Prisons protocol.

► Turn to LETHAL, A5

Where McVeigh will die

Convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh will be executed June 12 in a building just outside the federal prison at Terre Haute, Ind.

Execution facility

Chemical room: lethal drugs kept here

Holding cell: McVeigh spends last three days here

Officer's station: Monitors McVeigh through windows

Victim witnesses: 10 seats

Government witnesses: 8 seats

Press room: witnesses: 10 seats

McVeigh witnesses: 6 seats

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Prisons Research/TUDY TRIBUNE, Graphic/TODD LINDEMANN

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Executions are a big yawn

Editor's Note: Wright, an assistant content editor for the Tribune-Star, witnessed the execution of John Wayne Gacy during his seven years covering criminal justice issues for this newspaper. He also holds a master's degree in criminology from Indiana State University.

By JOHN D. WRIGHT
Tribune Star

Death-penalty opponent Sister Helen Prejean is correct. Witnessing an execution firsthand does affect a person's view toward capital punishment.

It certainly changed mine when I saw John Wayne Gacy die. But not to a stance Prejean would endorse.

► Turn to WITNESS, A5

Lethal: Visitors will be asked to leave at 5 a.m.

► Continued from A1

He'll be secured and escorted to the execution room, where he'll be strapped down to the gurney and IVs will be inserted.

Group by group, witnesses selected from among victims and survivors, media and by McVeigh himself will be searched and granted entry into respective witness rooms, prison officials have said.

Near Oklahoma City, more than 200 survivors and victims' family members watching a closed circuit feed will witness McVeigh take his final breath.

On the day of the execution, all visitors and attorneys will be asked to leave the prison at 5 a.m., the same time prison officials establish an open telephone line with the Department of Justice.

Chief Deputy Coroner Kevin Mayes will be among the last to speak with McVeigh. He'll question the Oklahoma City bomber about any health problems and inquire whether he's been abused, and also examine him, Amos said.

McVeigh will be asked to sign a statement assuring there has been no foul play and that he has not been harmed while in custody, Amos said.

At 7 a.m., the death chamber curtains will be pulled back.

The witnesses will see the inmate on the gurney with a sheet pulled up to his chest ... to cover the IVs," penitentiary spokesman Jim Cross has said.

McVeigh will make his final statement.

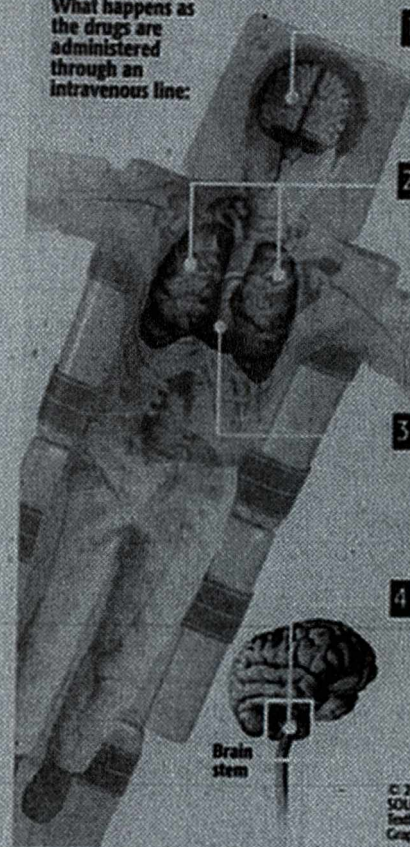
Witnesses to the execution will include U.S. Marshal Frank Anderson, Warden Harley Lappin and an undisclosed number of government officials.

Originally, the government planned for eight victim witnesses, but in April, Attorney General John Ashcroft said the number was inadequate. He ordered that 10 survivors of the blast or family members of victims chosen by lottery be allowed to watch in Terre Haute. The witnesses will watch through one-way glass; McVeigh will not be able to see into the victim viewing room.

Lethal injection

The drugs used in lethal injection stop blood circulation to the person's brain, and within minutes the person is "brain dead."

What happens as the drugs are administered through an intravenous line:



1 LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Sodium pentothal, an anesthetic

Makes brain cells stop reacting to nerve impulses

2 RESPIRATORY ARREST

Pancuronium, a chemical related to curare, which is used on poison arrows in the Amazon

Paralyzes muscles used in breathing; does not paralyze heart muscle

Lungs stop putting oxygen into red blood cells

3 CARDIAC ARREST

Potassium chloride, a simple chemical salt

Blocks electric signals inside the heart; heart slows, then stops

4 BRAIN DAMAGE

Brain's supply of oxygenated blood stops

Within 5 minutes, irreversible damage begins in brain stem, which controls breathing, other basic body functions

© 2001 KBT
SOURCE: Current Medical Diagnosis & Treatment,
Textbook of Medical Physiology
Graphic/LEE HULTING

Cross said.

For his originally scheduled May 16 execution date, McVeigh had chosen five witnesses - novelist Gore Vidal, former conspiracy theorist Cate McCauley, reporter Lou Michel and defense attorneys Robert Nigh Jr. and Nathan Chambers. A sixth spot for a spiritual adviser remained unfilled.

Media witnesses will include one reporter from the Tribune-Star, one from The Daily Oklahoman and one from the Associated Press, according to Bureau of Prisons guidelines. Bureau guidelines also outline that the remaining seven media witnesses will be selected from a wire service, radio station, two print media organiza-

tions, two national television stations and a television station from Oklahoma City.

The selection process will begin at 4 a.m. Monday, prison officials have said. It will be up to the reporters in the media pool to finalize the selection, according to Bureau of Prisons protocol.

After reading the judgment and commitment order, Lappin will announce, "We are ready."

Using a red phone, Anderson will check with the Department of Justice Command Center and make sure no last-minute stay has been granted.

With the warden's go-ahead, sodium pentothal will be pumped into McVeigh's veins.

Dubbed "truth serum" -

because in low doses it takes away your inhibitions - the drug will put him to sleep, Amos said.

"It very rapidly enters the brain and causes a deep ... unconsciousness," said Dr. Edward Brunner, an anesthesiology professor at Northwestern University.

The second drug, pancuronium, also known as Pavulon, relaxes the muscles, including those used in breathing.

"The drug blocks the ability for nerves to transmit information to the muscles, so muscles can't contract," said Brunner, who believe the process could potentially be painful. "None of these drugs are pain-relievers," he said.

The third drug, potassium chloride, will block the electrical signals inside McVeigh's heart, slowing his heart and then stopping it.

The executioners will signal that the drugs have been administered, according to execution protocol.

Mayes will check McVeigh's vital signs and pronounce him dead.

After the drapes have been closed, Amos and Mayes will examine McVeigh's body on site, Mayes said.

If anything out of the ordinary is discovered during the examination, there will be the option of doing an autopsy, which would have to be approved by a federal judge, Amos said.

"Assuming everything is as it is supposed to be," his body will be turned over immediately to U.S. Marshals, Amos said, and then to one of his attorneys.

McVeigh's father, Bill, has said his son will be cremated, with the remains going to attorney Robert Nigh Jr.

Amos will sign the death certificate, which will list "lethal injection" as the cause of death. The certificate will be needed for his body to be transported anywhere, she said.

A permanent mark of McVeigh's execution will remain in Vigo County - his death certificate will be filed at the county's Vital Statistics Office, the coroner said.

McVeigh: Friends say he was good soldier

► Continued from A1

McVeigh began school at Starpoint Central, a kindergarten through 12th-grade school in Lockport, where he graduated in 1986.

Jerry Mattina Kinley was a year ahead of him in school. She remembers McVeigh as a pleasant boy.

"When I think of Tim McVeigh, I picture when we were in junior high and senior high. He just seemed so quiet and so shy," said Kinley, who rode the bus with him. "He wasn't picked on, but wasn't really popular."

However, writers Lou Michel and Dan Herbeck presented another view of McVeigh, being bullied on at least three occasions — accounts McVeigh recalled as an adult.

In the book, "American Terrorist," the authors describe the earliest incident of McVeigh being "walloped" by a bigger boy who had grabbed his baseball cap. The incident left McVeigh embarrassed, and the memory stuck, according to the book.

When Tim was 11, his father and mother separated temporarily. For a while, his sisters moved into a nearby home with their mother. Tim stayed and lived with his dad.

Five years later, his parents split for the final time.

"I think any kid is upset by parents divorcing," McDermott said, and McVeigh was no different. But McVeigh did not seem devastated, McDermott said.

McVeigh never spent a lot of time by himself, Michel said. When Bill McVeigh, an auto worker, had to work late, Tim would stay with family friends on his block of Meyer Road.

"He found community among other people, among his friends and his friends' parents," Michel said.

At 12, McVeigh filled in as a baby-sitter for the two McDermott children until he and his father moved to another home in Lockport. The kids loved playing with him.

McVeigh liked comic books — "He had a great big comic book collection. I would guess over a thousand," his father said — and playing with action figures, especially Star Wars and GI Joe.

When he grew older, his grandfather, Ed McVeigh, introduced him to guns, which would become an adult passion.

McVeigh was confirmed at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Pendleton, where Bill McVeigh still attends mass. Monaghan Paul Belzer from Good Shepherd doesn't remember much about McVeigh, he just sort of blended in, he said.

Tim was never particularly religious, his father said. "We went to church. He made his confirmation," and then he quit going to church. "When he didn't have to go anymore, he didn't."

THE REAL WORLD

Although a pretty good student in high school, McVeigh graduated with little interest in attending college, Burr said.

"He was sort of aimless ... when he came out of high school," Burr said. McVeigh worked at some low-paying jobs before he found a job as a security guard.

It was while working at Burke Armer Inc. that McVeigh crossed paths with Jeff Camp, a fellow security guard who remembers McVeigh as intelligent, but cocky. Occasionally, he'd show off his guns at work, and once McVeigh came in looking like Rambo, with a sawed-off shotgun in his hand and a broad belt filled with



Decorated soldier: Timothy McVeigh was stationed in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War when this undated image was taken. McVeigh, in the U.S. Army from 1988-1991, fought in Operation Desert Storm and was awarded a Bronze Star for his service. He will be executed by lethal injection at the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute, on Monday.

ammunition across his chest, Camp said.

"I guess he wanted attention," he said.

His superiors told him to put the gun and ammunition back in his car, and he obliged, McVeigh later told the authors of "American Terrorist" that the whole incident was a joke.

Camp, who was McVeigh's partner on an armored truck, said McVeigh talked about his parents' divorce. "He hated his mother, I think," Camp said. "He couldn't understand why there was a separation."

McVeigh, who spent time reading gun magazines as a passenger in the armored truck, also complained about paying taxes. "I know he didn't like the government much," his former co-worker recalled.

Finding little fulfillment as a security guard, McVeigh, after less than a year, joined the army.

ARMY LIFE

William David Dilly remembers his first glimpse of McVeigh during basic training in May 1988.

At 20, McVeigh, who had little facial hair, was the "little skinny kid who looked like he was 15," Dilly said.

Dilly and McVeigh, both new Army recruits, served in the same COHORT unit at Fort Benning, Ga., a group of enlistees recruited together, trained together and later deployed together to the Persian Gulf War. The unit also included Decker, Mich., native Terry Nichols, who was later sentenced to life in prison for his role in the Oklahoma City bombing.

McVeigh and Nichols quickly became friends. "They were always talking," Dilly recalled.

After basic training ended in late 1988, the entire unit was sent to Fort Riley, Kan., where Dilly and McVeigh roomed together for 11 months.

"The first thing that everyone noticed about Tim was he was always squared away. He was always the first one to get everything done," Dilly said.

McVeigh quickly gained confidence in his soldiering abilities and rose through the enlisted ranks, first to corporal then to sergeant, Dilly said.

"Everything he did he was the absolute best at," Dilly said. If not, he would "get fanatical" until he was the best.

"He was trying to prove something all the time," Dilly said. McVeigh once told a fellow soldier he joined the infantry because he liked weapons.

Dilly remembers McVeigh shooting a perfect score of 1,000

during an exercise.

"It was unbelievable," Dilly said. Of the 500 Bradley Fighting Vehicle gunners on Fort Riley, McVeigh topped the list, according to Dilly.

Impressed with his marksmanship, the Army placed McVeigh to test for the Special Forces, Dilly said. After passing an initial test, McVeigh spent the next six months training.

After a 12-hour day of work, McVeigh would grab his ruck sack, stuff it with an 80-pound sandbag and haul the backpack around during a self-imposed 12- to 15-mile road march.

Then he'd endure hundreds of sit-ups, push-ups and chin-ups. "He was more or less to me like the epitome of infantry," said Bruce Williams, who also served in the Army with McVeigh and testified during the sentencing at the bombing trial.

"In Fort Benning you have a statue and it's called 'Iron Mike.' And I kind of thought of him as an Iron Mike-type of fellow, you know, the extremist, follow-me kind of guy," Williams said.

Dilly quickly learned McVeigh liked survivalism and guns. McVeigh kept food, ammunition, guns and water in a self-storage unit in nearby Junction City, Kan., he said.

McVeigh had between 30 and 40 guns at the time, Dilly said, but that wasn't unusual at Fort Riley.

Though soldiers were strictly prohibited from bringing personal weapons on post, McVeigh, like other soldiers, would sometimes sneak a gun on base. Once he hid a Beretta in a duffel bag so he could show it off to someone, Dilly said.

"He did a lot of trading and wheeling and dealing with the guns," Dilly recalled.

Each month, McVeigh would buy survivalist magazines at the base exchange, and he read "Soldier of Fortune," a pro-military, pro-gun magazine popular among the soldiers, Dilly said.

McVeigh also kept a copy of the "Turner Diaries" handy after spending a week reading the novel while on a field exercise,

Dilly said. The book sat on McVeigh's desk.

The 211-page paperback by William Pierce, under the pen name Andrew Macdonald, portrays the overthrow of the federal government by a racist, anti-Semitic group. The series of attacks includes the bombing of the FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. The bomber detonates the weapon in a stolen delivery truck.

"He even tried to get me to read it at one time," Dilly said.

While other soldiers frequented the local bars, McVeigh declined. "He didn't drink," Dilly said.

But he would help finance soldiers who'd run out of money for a night on the town. "He was the guy to go to. He had regular customers," Dilly said.

Charging interest, he'd often lend cash to others, and he'd serve as the taxi service for drunken soldiers, changing them for a ride back to the base.

Around women, McVeigh acted nervous and he stuttered, his former roommate said.

He was "real shy, kind of like a junior-high kid," Dilly said. He could remember McVeigh hanging around with only a couple of girls locally.

As roommates, the two talked about their families back home, and McVeigh frequently mentioned his mother and younger sister, Jennifer.

"What I found strange was I could never remember him saying a word about his mother — ever," Dilly said. Dilly said he assumed at first that she must have been dead.

Then, about a month before McVeigh was scheduled to report for his Special Forces tryout, his unit was called to action in Operation Desert Storm, Dilly said.

McVeigh was ready for the Gulf War, said Burr, his attorney. Expecting to face a battle-hardened Iraqi army, McVeigh had prepared for the worst. Casualties could be high, the soldiers were warned. But when they arrived in the desert, they found otherwise.

They were facing a decimated and starving group of people who used to be soldiers, Burr said. They saw extraordinary devastation from the air raids — charred bodies, parts of bodies.

"That whole process for him was extraordinarily disillusioning. He felt he was misled by the U.S. government," Burr said. "I felt like he was participating in a genocide."

Called home from Saudi Arabia for a Special Forces tryout, McVeigh wasn't in the physical condition he once was. And just days into the tryout, he quit.

"All he told me was he hurt his leg. I didn't press it," Dilly said.

McVeigh eventually left the Army voluntarily in late 1991 during the downsizing after the Gulf War.

Like all Gulf War veterans who participated in the Special Forces tryout, McVeigh could have had another chance at making it in the elite Green Berets, Burr said.

But "he didn't have the heart to because he didn't believe in the United States anymore," he said.

POST-ARMY LIFE

After he left the Army, McVeigh returned to what author Michel called the "same dead end job." He worked as a scheduler and security guard, this time with Burns Security.

McVeigh became progressively disillusioned and embraced his anti-government theme, Michel said.

He made his views known in letters to his hometown newspaper, the Lockport Union-Sun & Journal.

"Is civil war imminent?" McVeigh wrote in a February 1992 letter to the paper. "Do we have to shed blood to reform the current system? I hope it doesn't come to that, but it might."

"What is it going to take to open up the eyes of our elected officials?" he asked. "AMERICA IS IN SERIOUS DECLINE."

He left home in early 1993, on what Michel has described as McVeigh's "lost journey."

Andrea Peters, who became friends with McVeigh while working at Burns Security, thought McVeigh was leaving for a tall-talking job in Kansas. But Michel said McVeigh was looking for something other than a job.

"He was looking for a state where there wouldn't be a lot of taxes," where there wasn't much government regulation, he said.

"He just couldn't find his niche, and he became more and more indifferent to life in that two-year period. It developed over time."

During his cross-country journey, McVeigh visited gun shows and often stayed weeks or even months at a time at the Nichols farm in Decker, Mich., and at Michael Fortner's home in Kingman, Ariz. Fortner and McVeigh had met in the army, and served in the same unit as Nichols.

Robert Papovich of Cass City, Mich., remembering McVeigh several times at the nearby Nichols farm. "Just hanging around," government agents later searched the farm after the Oklahoma City bombing.

Once, McVeigh was helping ride a building on the property. "He was friendly, articulate,

had a good sense of humor — a totally different Tim than 'Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber,'" said Papovich, who has been corresponding with McVeigh since shortly after his arrest and has planned to travel to Terre Haute for Monday's execution.

Former defense attorney Stephen Jones believes it was around that time — on the Nichols farm — that McVeigh's attitude began to become extreme. And he credits James Nichols, the brother of McVeigh's Army buddy, Terry Nichols, could not be reached for comment.

McVeigh's anti-government views were clearly evident to Michelle Rauch, who remembers seeing him in the spring of 1993 during the federal government standoff at the Branch Davidian Compound near Waco, Texas.

Rauch, a college senior at the time, had traveled to Waco with a friend during their spring break. Rauch figured she would write a story on the standoff for her college newspaper.

As she approached the Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms agency media checkpoint, she noticed large signs that caught her attention: "David Koresh, The Great National Diversion," and "Mark of the Beast."

She interviewed a few people, including a man passing out seventh-day Adventist Church literature and a woman selling T-shirts.

Then she came across McVeigh. "Tim McVeigh was sitting there on the hood of his car with bumper stickers," said Rauch, now a reporter with a Lexington, Ky., television station.

Dressed in a camouflage baseball cap, a red plaid shirt and jeans, McVeigh displayed four bumper stickers on the hood of his car and a carboard sign in the window advertising the stickers for sale.

During a 15- to 20-minute discussion, during which she was photographed interviewing McVeigh, Rauch recalls being fascinated with the things he had to say.

"I didn't agree with what he said. But she found his anti-government philosophy interesting, nonetheless. McVeigh was 'so articulate and so smart,' she said.

Rauch said she was struck by how unhappy he seemed to be with living in the United States.

McVeigh returned to the Nichols farm in Michigan, where he watched the end of the Branch Davidian siege in Waco, Texas, play out on television.

The standoff, which began with a weapons raid Feb. 28, 1993, at the Branch Davidian compound, ended April 19, 1993, when the compound burned, killing cult leader David Koresh and at least 75 of his followers.

While six of the nine surviving cult members claimed the FBI started the blaze, FBI officials said Branch Davidians set fire to the building.

The government's actions and its response angered McVeigh. "What he saw after Waco was the government not taking responsibility for what happened," Burr said.

That failure to be held accountable, in the eyes of McVeigh, made the government even more dangerous. "It meant to him that the government might do that over and over again, and there had to be some light-bell against that," Burr said.

The memory of Waco would not fade, even after the bombing. "Every time we talked about Waco, there was a point at which the conversation tears came into his eyes and he quit talking," Burr said. It was as if he had lost a family member in the fire.

► Turn to McVEIGH, A7

"The first thing that everyone noticed about Tim was he was always squared away. He was always the first one to get everything done. Everything he did he was the absolute best at. He was trying to prove something all the time."

William David Dilly, McVeigh's superior in the U.S. Army

"I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul."

Local & Bistate

Substitute teacher pay rate topic for school board

Proposal calls for raising compensation from \$50 to \$58 per day

By SUZ LOUGHLIN
Times Staff

The Vigo County School Board will discuss an increase in the substitute teacher pay rate when it meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Substitute teachers are paid \$50 each day. That pay would increase to \$58 per day under a recommendation being proposed by the administration.

The item is up only for discussion on Tuesday, said John Orr, director of human resources.

A pay increase is being suggested to increase the number of substitutes available and also to recognize their contribution to the corporation, Orr said.

Vigo County and many other school districts have been plagued by a shortage

of substitute teachers.

Orr is also proposing that the school district increase efforts to recruit substitutes through colleges and other agencies.

Another recommendation is to use retired teaching assistants with a minimum of five years' experience and pay them \$35 per day as substitute teachers. This group "would be used as backup on days when the school district might exhaust its regular supply of substitute teachers," the recommendation states.

The latter idea departs from school district practice, which requires substitutes to have 60 hours of college credit. "We feel retired teaching assistants with five years' experience would have the capability to function as a supervisor in the classroom," Orr said.

The pay increase would cost the school district an additional \$130,720 from the cash balance, or a total of \$347,720 for the school year if the proposal is approved at a future meeting. It would take effect Aug. 21.

Among those supporting an increase is new board member Al Hamblen. During the election, several people approached him about substitute pay, he said. "If we're going to draw in good substitutes, it's probably advantageous to offer more money," Hamblen said.

Board member Joe Minale also supports an increase. "I think we've got to take care of our people. They are an important part of our school corporation," he said.

Another item up for discussion only is a revision of the Athletic Code of Conduct. The changes are partly to ensure the athletic policy is consistent with the overall Student Rights and Responsibilities policy, which covers student discipline for all students, said Myron Luby, director of secondary education.

The changes will clarify when a student becomes an athlete. It also outlines that student athletes will be expected to adhere to the code of conduct at all times once they become an athlete.

Changes also clarify issues related to

"If we're going to draw in good substitutes, it's probably advantageous to offer more money."

Al Hamblen
board member

athletic suspension or exclusion.

The policy states, in part, that possession of or use of any substance that is prohibited is represented by the first offense will be athletic suspension and additional offenses will cause athletic exclusion.

Providing or transmitting any substance which is or is represented to be, alcohol or drugs, will cause athletic exclusion.

If a student faces athletic exclusion, the athlete becomes ineligible to participate in any athletic program for one year from the date of the infraction.

In other discussion items, school officials will present a proposed increase in textbook rental fees for kindergarten through the next school year.

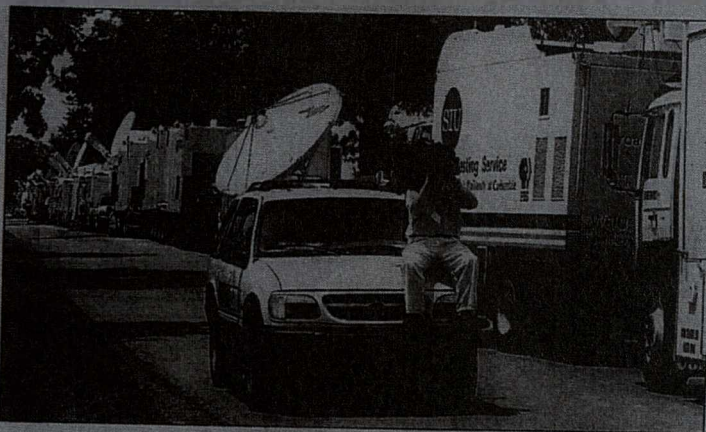
For kindergarten students who attend half-days, the fee would be \$37, up from \$47.50 this year. For full-day kindergarten students, the fee would be \$81, up from \$71 this year. For elementary students to grades 1-5, the fees will remain unchanged at \$16.50.

The increase in the kindergarten level is attributed to recent reading/writing adaptations and the addition of a reading textbook for that level.

In other discussion matters, the board will hear a report from a committee that examined travel procedures. Holly Pres, curriculum coordinator for staff development, said the existing travel policy had no major flaws.

The committee is making recommendations to change request and reimbursement forms to make it easier for teachers and to increase accountability.

Invasion of the Media, Part Deux



Friday was a busy day at the U.S. Penitentiary, with media from all over the world setting up shop in preparation for the Monday execution of Timothy McVeigh. Recording the never-ending line of satellite trucks, at left is John Whalen of television station WTHR in Indianapolis. Above, Rick Lessard, a correspondent for Fox News, stands on the scaffolding he'll use for broadcasts throughout the weekend.

Vigo sheriff wants to equip deputies with new radios

Equipment to cost taxpayers \$134,346 for first year of lease

By PETER CHANCONE
Times Staff

Sheriff Bill Harris plans to ask the Vigo County Council for new radios to help protect deputies and allow for better communication with the Indi-

ana State Police and some area volunteer fire departments.

The price tag, however, may be too high for some council members.

The proposal asks for \$134,346 to pay for the first year of a five-year lease on a state-of-the-art radio system. The system is a relatively new powerful analog radio system that is used in the state.

It could expand to allow deputies to maintain computer links to cars and for emergency identification and tracking systems.

The lease asks for 41 portable radios for individual officers, 37 mobile radios for cars and a dispatch console to coordinate their use.

The cost of the package runs \$390,881, Harris said. The system is state-owned, and the state provides the maintenance.

The idea is to get the radio communication network for the deputy sheriffs working in this county, Harris said. The current system is

limited outside a five-mile radius of the tower at 13th Street and Lockport Road, and is further limited inside buildings. It also is old and in constant need of repair, Harris said.

Councilman Tim Curley, D-1st, said he expected the proposal to be sent to the special projects committee for study.

"The sheriff gave us the material, but didn't say boo-hoo about it," Curley said. "He needed to study a commitment of that much money over five

years."

The system Harris proposes is based on a new technology system endorsed in an Indiana State Police statewide project called Hoosier Safe-T. Volunteer fire departments in Riley, Henry, Creek, Partridge and Sugar Creek now use it.

The state initiative, undertaken in 1997, hit a snag this year when the Legislature took \$15 million out of the budget that had been earmarked to build towers and site equipment.



Vigo County Sheriff Bill Harris will ask the county council for money to lease new radio equipment for deputies.

McVeigh's date with death won't stop other scheduled events

Police will provide security, pageant director says

By ZACH TAYLOR
Times Staff

The Miss Indiana pageant and Hoosier Boy State - events scheduled next week during Timothy McVeigh's Monday death date - will not be delayed because of the execution.

Rod Henry, pageant executive director, said pageant activities will begin at 8:30 a.m. Sunday and continue without interruption throughout the week. The pageant runs through June 16. This is the 61st Miss Indiana scholarship program.

"We're going to have additional security," Henry said. "We had

conversations this morning with (police) and we're going to stay in close communication today, tomorrow and Sunday."

McVeigh is slated to die by lethal injection at 7 a.m. Monday in the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute. He is convicted of killing 168 people in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah building in Oklahoma City.

"There shouldn't be any problems with the pageant, Henry said. "Our biggest concern is the possibility of being overwhelmed by the national media ... because they're looking for other positive stories tied to the city. And who knows, they may see the next Miss America."

Dennis Diermaga, Indiana American Legion coordinator for Hoosier Boy State, said he doesn't think the media will cause a problem with the Legion-sponsored Hoosier Boys State.

"We have state police on staff here and they've assured us that this is the safest place to be in the entire state."

Dennis Diermaga, Indiana American Legion coordinator for Hoosier Boys State

"State media representatives covering the execution are staying in the buildings on the campus of Indiana State University, where Boys State runs. About 850 tents are in Terre Haute for Hoosier Boys State, which runs from Saturday through June 16. Indianapolis does not anticipate any disruption."

"We have state police on staff here and they've assured us that this is the safest place to be in the entire state," he said.

MONDAY CLOSINGS

The following offices and programs will be closed Monday:

- Gov. Frank O'Bannon announced that several state offices in Vigo County will be closed. The declaration affects only non-essential state employees whose work site is in Vigo County.
- These offices affected are as follows:
 - Department of Workforce Development (downtown)
 - Family and Social Services Administration/Division of Family and Children (downtown)
 - Family and Social Services Administration/Vocational Rehabilitation (downtown)
 - Department of Revenue (downtown)
 - Indiana Department of Transportation
 - Bureau of Motor Vehicles
 - Department of Corrections' Parole Office. Employees scheduled to work shall be given leave with pay, unless required to work. Employees required to work shall

be granted compensatory time off on an hour-for-hour basis for each hour worked.

- CHANCES KFC Summer Camp will close Monday at Deering Elementary and Chancery Rose Middle School. Camp will resume Tuesday.
- All sites of Jay Tech State College/Western Valley Region will be closed, but Crook classes will be in session from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the south campus.
- Covered Bridge Girl Scout Council will also close Monday.
- Terre Haute City Hall
- Vigo County Annex Building and County Highway Department
- Vigo County courthouse
- Vigo County Public Library branches. All public library branches will be closed Sunday in anticipation of the execution, and they are normally closed Sunday during the summer.
- Regardless of whether the execution is on or off, the start of summer school for the Vigo County

School Corp will be delayed until Tuesday, said Superintendent Dan Tanous. Summer school was scheduled to begin Monday.

- The School Board meeting originally scheduled for Monday evening will instead occur at 7 p.m. Tuesday and that time will not change, Tanous said.
- Additionally, all school facilities will be closed and all athletic events and practices will be canceled, Tanous said.
- The federal building at Seventh and Cherry streets will remain open Monday, and several of its offices also will be open, including the post office branch, U.S. District Court, U.S. Marshall's office, Western Indiana Community Action Agency and the office of U.S. Congressman Brian Kemezis. The clerk's office of the U.S. District Court may close, but a decision had not been made by Thursday, said Laura Briggs, clerk of the court.
- The YWCA plans to close Monday if the execution occurs.

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Tribune Star

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2001

SERVING TERRE HAUTE AND THE WABASH VALLEY

\$1.50 NEWSSTAND

'...I COULD SEE SKY, BLUE SKY, CLEAR THROUGH THE BUILDING'

Greatest act of terrorism

Bomb left
downtown
Oklahoma City
in shambles

BY MICHELLE KOUTKAMP
TRIBUNE STAR

It was a great spring morning, with crisp air and a beautiful sky spotted with fluffy white clouds. But Terry Rose was a bit frazzled.

City police had ticketed his car while he attended the Oklahoma City Mayor's Annual Prayer Breakfast. Frustrated, he tossed the ticket on his desk at an Oklahoma utility company and went on his first coffee break to relax.

He was filling his second cup when a violent tremor grabbed hold of the building, throwing Rose to the ground.

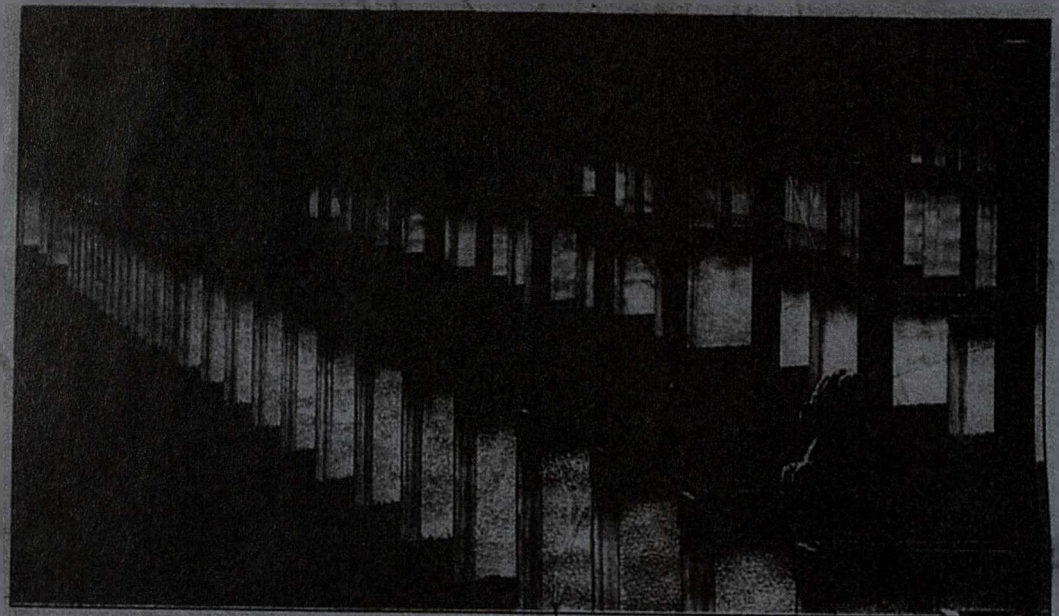
When it settled, he ran from the building - dodging falling debris and stumbling through dense

dust. A black north, smoke was beginning to rise up into the Oklahoma City sky.

Rose's first thought was of his mother, who worked on the third floor of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. The smoke was billowing from the building - a building that Timothy McVeigh's truck bomb had blown to shreds at 9:01 a.m. on April 19, 1995. The bomb rattled most of downtown and could be felt miles away.

"I went to a plaza where mother's office was, and I could see sky, blue sky, clear through the building," Rose recalls with exact detail more than six years later. "And black smoke was billowing up, against this incredible blue sky."

McVeigh will be executed at 7 a.m. Monday at the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute. It will be the first federal execution in 38 years.



Solitude: A lone teddy bear sits on W. Stephen Williams' memorial chair, one of the 168 chairs for the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing, at the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

INSIDE

■ Survivors tell their stories, A6-7

■ Complete list of 168 victims, A6-7

Bomber's dad, victim's dad form unique bond

"Bill (McVeigh) has to wake up every single morning faced with the reality his son killed 168 people."

Bud Welch, father of bombing victim Julie Welch

BY VALERIE E. PILLO

NIAGARA GAZETTE • Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Bill McVeigh and Bud Welch have formed a unique friendship in the face of tragedy.

Welch's daughter, Julie Marie Welch, 23, an employee of the Social Security Administration in Oklahoma City, was killed when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was blown up April 19, 1995.

McVeigh's son, Timothy McVeigh, is the reason she died. It was his bomb that took down the Murrah building.

Devastated by his daughter's death, Welch, who owns a Texaco station in Oklahoma City, said all he did was drink for a year. Then something happened. Taking

up his daughter's opposition to the death penalty, he let go of his anger and started speaking out against capital punishment.

He has traveled extensively throughout the United States, and on Sept. 5, 1998, his travels took him to western New York. He tracked down Bill McVeigh's sister, who set up a reluctant meeting between the two men at McVeigh's home in Pendleton, N.Y.

"Bill didn't want to do it at first, but later agreed," Welch said. "I knew it would be difficult for me because I knew Tim had lived there with his dad when he went to high school. I was very nervous about this meeting. I had rubbery knees when I knocked on the door. I remember knocking softly."

When McVeigh answered the door Welch said, "Bill, I understand you have a garden. He said, 'Would you like to see it?' ... I knew we'd find common ground."

During their 10 hour visit, the two men and Bill McVeigh's daughter, Jennifer, never talked about Timothy McVeigh's guilt or innocence. But Welch said he found himself drawn to a picture of Timothy McVeigh on the dining room wall.

"I kept glancing at the wall, at the picture," he said. "I knew Bill and Jennifer saw me. I looked up at it again and said, 'God, what a good looking kid.'"

Welch said the McVeighs just looked down at the floor.



Bill McVeigh didn't want to meet with Bud Welch, but now has struck up a unique relationship with the father of a bombing victim.

► Turn to BOMB, A8

► Turn to UNIQUE, A7

OKLAHOMA CITY
BOMBING VICTIMS

Cabin Battle, 62, Oklahoma City
Pamela Battle, 56, Oklahoma City
Oleta C. Biddy, 54, Tulsa
Cassinda Kay Booker, 25,
Oklahoma City
Carol Louise Bowers, 53, Yukon
Peachy Bradley, 3, Oklahoma City
Gabriel D.L. Bruce, 3 months,
Oklahoma City
Katherine Louise Cregan, 60,
Oklahoma City
Ashley Megan Eddles, 4, Guthrie
Don Fritzer, 64, Oklahoma City
Mary Anne Frazier, 57, Oklahoma
City
Laura Jane Garrison, 61, Oklahoma
City
Margaret Beitzler Goodson, 54,
Oklahoma City
Ethel L. Griffin, 53, Edmond
Cheryl E. Harrison, 44, Oklahoma
City
Ronald Vernon Harding Sr., 55,
Oklahoma City
Thomas Lynn Hawthorne Sr., 52,
Chickasha
Dr. Charles E. Hurlbut, 73,
Oklahoma City
Joan Huttung Hurlbut, 67,
Oklahoma City
Raymond "Lee" Johnson, 59,
Oklahoma City
Lakisha Richardson Levy, 21,
Midwest City
Aurelia Donna Lusier, 43, Guthrie
Robert Lee Luster Jr., 45, Guthrie
Rev. Gilbert X. Martinez, 35,
Oklahoma City
Courtney I. McIlvren, 19, Midwest
City
Dorwin W. Miller, 27, Oklahoma
City
Eula Leigh Mitchell, 64, Oklahoma
City
Emilio Ippa, 50, Oklahoma City
Christina Andrea Lewis Thomas,
43, Oklahoma City
Michael George Thompson, 47,
Yukon
Lafayette A. Treanor, 55, Guthrie
Luther H. Treanor, 61, Guthrie
Robert H. Walker Jr., 52, Oklahoma
City
Jude Marie Welch, 23, Oklahoma
City
W. Stephen Williams, 42, Cashion
Sharon Louise Wood-Chenut, 47,
Oklahoma City
Steven Douglas Curry, 44, Norman
Michael L. Lousenslager, 48, Harra

Oklahoma City victim Patty Hall left
with daily reminders of explosionBY PATRICIA L. PASTOREK
Times Staff Writer

Splinters of glass work out of her flesh. She hears tall buildings she can't stand to be enclosed in small spaces. Aches and pains tear through her body every day. Yet life is precious to Oklahoma City bombing survivor Patty Hall.

"Whatever I had I've gained back triple through my spiritual walk with Jesus," Hall said. "I'm so grateful to greet each day." Hall was on the third floor of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building when Timothy McVeigh detonated a truck bomb outside the building on April 19, 1995, killing 168 people.

"I only remember that I had a can of air freshener in my hand to spray the hallway. When I put my finger on the nozzle of the spray, the bomb exploded."

Patty Hall, bombing survivor

she was trapped before she finally was freed.

The unexpected act of terror ten six years ago shocked the

from the power of the homemade bomb, Hall left two stories and wound up trapped beneath tons of rubble.

Black smoke and small particles of debris continued to rain down on her after the blast. The polluted air she breathed damaged her lungs. She was encircled by the dead and dying.

Hall said she could hear rescuers nearby, but she could not scream out for help because of her injuries. She does not remember her legs being freed.

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nation and stunned Oklahoma City residents. News of the last day was broadcast over radio and television within minutes after the bomb exploded.

Hall's brother, Lesa Perkins, and her friend of 40 years, Mary Johnson, waited together for news of survivors.

"I headed for Patty's mother's house when I heard what happened," Johnson said. "I knew where her (Patty's) office was and didn't see how she could survive it."

About three hours after the explosion, Perkins received a phone call from a local hospital. "They told us Patty was alive," Johnson said. "We just got up and went there."

Hall suffered 40 broken or crushed bones, from her ankles to her legs, pelvis and ribs. She had a punctured lung and dozens of cuts from flying glass.

Five days after the bombing, Hall's relatives and minister gathered at her bedside. Hall's lungs were failing and doctors thought

she might die.

"We prayed at her bedside until about midnight," Johnson said. "She made it through the night. There were other rough times. I think the hand of God was involved in this."

Because Hall was in pain that she could not endure, her doctors put her into a medically induced coma for a month so her body would have a chance to heal.

Gradually her 40 broken bones began to mend. The punctured lung healed. Two months after Hall was admitted to the hospital, she was released. Her rehabilitation lasted for years.

"They had a machine move my legs," Hall said. "I had to relearn how to walk."

Still suffering from breathing problems and in constant pain from arthritis brought on by her injuries, Hall is now permanently disabled and has not been able to return to her job.

Hall switched gears after she was able to walk again. She began helping others in need.

When saying her prayers she asked God, "Where do I belong?" Hall said.

"Two years ago I started doing volunteer work for the Salvation Army. I'm also a member of the women's Christian luncheon group," she said. "I work for God in my own way."

"I'm a member of the National Memorial Museum, which was established in remembrance of the bombing victims," Hall said. "I've had two years of physical therapy along with emotional and mental therapy. My life is a spiritual journey."

Johnson said she admires her friend's tremendous strength. Her friend has exhibited while dealing with more than five years of pain and suffering.

"Patty is one of the strongest people I know. To come through this and have your sanity in amazing," she said. "Patty has worked to make good come out of something horrible."

Susan Walton has endured 25 surgeries,
overcome obstacles, remains positiveBY ZACH TAYLOR
Times Staff Writer

Susan Walton remembers going to the credit union at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building the morning of April 19, 1995, to make a deposit.

She remembers it was a beautiful spring day. She remembers being in a hurry so she could get some studying done for a college exam.

But those are the last solid memories Susan has from that day.

Just as the credit union opened, a bomb exploded, gutting the Murrah building and killing 168 people.

"I have no memory of that day, so sometimes it's hard for me to totally put into perspective what did happen. I feel that it's a blessing that I can't remember."

Susan Walton, bombing survivor

Walton's ankle was broken so badly that three pieces of bone fell out of a hole in her foot while she was on the operating table. She also temporarily lost the ability to speak and had no recollection on her.

"Later that day, I kinda have a hazy memory of laying on my back and looking up at the ceiling," said Walton, who had been taken to the hospital. "I was a

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Credit union president survived
while many in office perishedBY MICHELLE HOLKAMP
Times Staff Writer

As Florence Rogers and her employees unlocked the doors to the federal credit union that Wednesday morning, everything seemed normal.

It was about 9 a.m. on April 19, 1995 — time for the credit union to open as employees in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building went on their first office break of the day.

Usually people lined up at the desk, but today only one man was doing his banking as Rogers, president and chief executive officer of the credit union, sat down for a meeting with seven of her employees. Her secretary was close by.

The tellers waited on the man, and he made his way back to the elevators. His receipt was stamped 9:11 a.m.

The fact that he had gotten around to the elevator, that's what saved his life, Rogers said.

Just seconds later, a blast ripped through the building. Rogers was blown back wards, and the seven sitting in front of her dropped to their deaths in the rubble created when Timothy McVeigh's truck bomb went off.

Not a piece of paper was left in the credit union, but Florence Rogers was.

Only 18 square inches of floor remained in the office; Rogers somehow was blown onto them

Someone pulled her to safety through a stairwell window. Rogers climbed aboard a medical bus and for more than an hour rode around with other people who were bleeding out and bruised. Realizing she wasn't seriously injured, she got off at medical triage unit along the street.

Meanwhile her son, who worked across the street from the Murrah Building, had rushed over when he heard the explosion.

Desperately searching for his mother, he went to a nearby hospital where names of patients were being written on the wall as they were brought in. Minutes ticked as he watched the list grow.

Blocks away, a medical worker had sent Rogers to an apartment building down the street to use the phone. But the only number she could think of was to a little restaurant in her hometown.

When Rogers called, her sister and brother-in-law answered. "Oh my God, you're alive," Rogers recalled. Her sons were paged, then the entire family gathered at her home to watch the rescue efforts.

Her only immediate medical need was a tetanus shot.

But a knot on her rear end from being catapulted through the air still hasn't gone away.

"It reminds me of Timothy McVeigh every time I look in the mirror," she said.

A year later, she had surgery on some vertebrae in her neck that were damaged in the fall.

Less than 48 hours after McVeigh's bombing, Rogers was back at work. Employees needed money to pay for funerals, and Rogers was determined they'd get it.

That's the only way she made it through the horror of watching 18 of her 33 employees fall to their deaths, she said. She knew 85 of the 168 people who were killed.

"I just stay busy all day every day," Rogers said from her large home in an Oklahoma City suburb.

"God has given me incredible strength that I didn't know I had."

She was 59 at the time of the bombing. Now 65, Rogers has retired — sort of. As she looks back from finishing her weekly funeral and cleaning out her garage, she said she's stayed involved with memorial luncheons and fund-raising efforts.

Money donated will pay for the education of the 14 children of those workers killed in her office.

"I watched them get married and have babies," Rogers said. "They were my family."

"The legacy of my credit union girls will go on, and I'm proud of that."

Unique:
McVeigh,
Welch keep
in touch

Continued from A1

"Bill told me all of his adult life he couldn't cry as a man," Welch said. "He said, 'I've had a lot to cry about. That's Tim's high school graduation picture. I saw a tear well up in his right eye. That's the love a father had for his son.'"

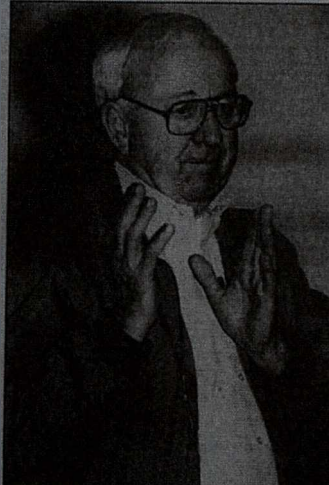
Unfortunately, Welch said, no one will remember the good things Timothy McVeigh did.

"Bill has to wake up every single morning faced with the reality his son killed 168 people," Welch said. "I can hang out (with him) and say all these wonderful things about what he did. Bill McVeigh doesn't have that privilege to be able to do that."

Welch said when he left, Jennifer McVeigh gave him a hug and cried.

"The three of us are in this for the rest of our lives," Welch said. "When I looked back at Bill, he weaved. I sobbed uncontrollably for a half hour. I've never done that before in my life. After I went through this death, a tremendous weight was lifted off my shoulders."

Welch will be in Terre Haute for the execution, but he won't be among the witnesses and he won't join the other anti-death



Vetter's father, Bud Welch lost a daughter in the Oklahoma City bombing. Nevertheless, he doesn't believe Timothy McVeigh should die for his actions.

penalty protesters, and of respect to the other victims, he said.

Welch said he thinks his daughter's killer is a "nick person" so full of rage he doesn't think clearly. But "the healing process doesn't include Tim McVeigh's

death. Some people realized that before I did," he said.

Bill McVeigh and Welch only met once, but they stay in contact. "We still talk at least once a week," Bill McVeigh said. "He's been a good friend."

Attorney: McVeigh was certain high court would turn down appeal

Buffalo News releases excerpts from letters received from bomber

By REX W. HUPPKE
Associated Press

Timothy McVeigh dropped his appeals because he was certain the U.S. Supreme Court would turn him down, one of his lawyers said Saturday. The Oklahoma City bomber wrote in a recent letter that he will die blaming the federal government for his actions.

In excerpts from letters to The Buffalo News released Saturday, McVeigh said he was sorry 168 people died when he blew up the Alfred P. Murrah federal building, but insisted the bombing was necessary to send a message to what he called an out-of-control government.

"I am sorry these people had to lose their lives," McVeigh wrote his hometown newspaper. "But that's the nature of the beast. It's understood going in what the human toll will be."

He referred to the April 19, 1995 bombing as "a legit tactic" in his war against the government.

McVeigh was to be moved from his 6- by 10-foot cell at the U.S. Penitentiary to a holding cell in the nearby death chamber sometime before 7 a.m. today, 24 hours before he is to be put to death. McVeigh attorney Chris Tritico said he expected the move would happen by the end of Saturday.

In Washington, an appeal was filed Saturday with the U.S. Supreme Court seeking to allow McVeigh's execution to be videotaped, part of an unrelated case alleging the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment. The Justice Department opposed the move in a filing delivered to the high court Saturday night.

McVeigh's lawyers had wanted more time to review the nearly 4,500 pages of belatedly released FBI documents that caused the bomber's original May 16 execution date to be delayed. But their request for a stay was turned down last week by U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch in Denver and the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Tritico said McVeigh gave up on seeking a stay because he was convinced the Supreme Court wouldn't grant it after the two lower courts turned him down.

"I don't view that as 'I want to die,'" Tritico said outside the federal prison. "I view that as a realization that I'm going nowhere with this process, so let's stop doing it."

McVeigh, 33, is scheduled to die by chemical injection at 7 a.m. Monday, the first person to be put to death by the federal government since 1963.

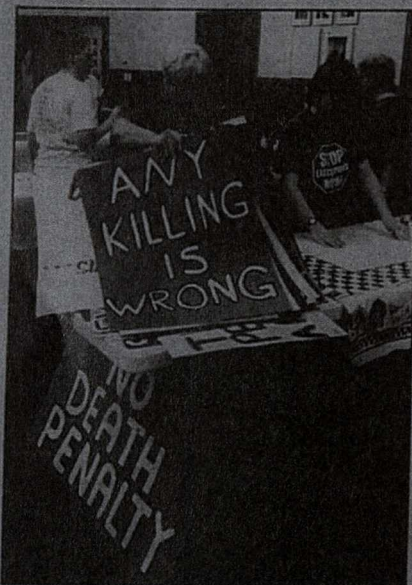
A friend who traveled to Terre Haute at McVeigh's request said Saturday that McVeigh would have chosen a different target had he known a day care center was in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

McVeigh, a Gulf War veteran, had called the children "collateral damage" in a book about the bombing written by the two Buffalo News reporters who received the recent letters.

"I do believe he has remorse about the innocent people and particularly the children that died in the bombing," said Bob Papovich, who lives about three miles from convicted bombing conspirator Terry Nichols' farm in Michigan, where McVeigh lived at one time.

"Had he known there was a day care center, contrary to what has been reported, he would have chosen another target, there's no doubt in my mind," Papovich said.

Tritico said McVeigh has not asked to have a spiritual adviser, but a priest at a Catholic church



AP/Chuck Robinson

Preparation: Members of the Terre Haute Abolition Network prepare signs protesting the execution of Timothy McVeigh. The group, including Sylvia Oster and Jennifer Colanese, will march today to demonstrate against Monday's execution.

near the prison said the convicted bomber has asked that a passage be read for him during a Sunday evening service.

Father Ron Ashmore would not say what the passage is, but said the service would be broadcast on local radio and that he hoped McVeigh would listen. Prison officials said McVeigh would not have access to a radio by that time, however.

During the service, a piece written by a Los Angeles compos-

er - a 12-minute musical "pre-quietum" the composer hopes will escort McVeigh's soul to heaven - will be played.

Papovich said McVeigh will be ready when the execution process begins.

"Tim has no fear whatsoever," said Papovich, who has corresponded with McVeigh by mail and over the phone since he's been in prison. "He's been prepared for this for sometime. He's very businesslike."

Garza's execution will not draw the same attention as McVeigh's

By MATT MILLER
Tribune-Star

Although Juan Raul Garza is scheduled to die just over a week after Timothy McVeigh's execution in Terre Haute, many national media outlets won't be staying around to cover it.

Many claim Garza's execution, scheduled for June 19, doesn't have enough national impact to validate an extra week in Terre Haute. The emotion and nature of the Oklahoma City bombing far outweigh that of Garza's crimes, Justine Schmidt, FoxNews bureau chief, said.

"Garza didn't touch as many lives," Schmidt said.

Garza's convicted crimes - marijuana trafficking, killing one man and ordering the deaths of two others - don't measure up to the 168 people McVeigh is convicted of killing in the 1993 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Stewart Dan, Midwest bureau chief for NBC News, said his network has mainly focused its efforts and attention toward McVeigh execution coverage.

"Obviously we'll cover [Garza's execution], but to the extent [McVeigh's execution] is being covered? I seriously doubt that," he said.

The U.S. Bureau of Prisons has held news conferences about both executions - McVeigh's drew over 200 media representatives, but only 12 attended Garza's, said Dan Dunne, Bureau of Prisons spokesman.

However, several Indiana news agencies believe they will cover Garza's execution.

Factors stemming from McVeigh's execution may give WISH-TV, an Indianapolis CBS affiliate, a reason to cover Garza's death, said assistant news director Ted Linn.

McVeigh will be the first federal execution since 1963. Garza's execution could be used for a comparison on the way prison procedures are carried out, Linn said. Also, another delay or presidential clemency might make Garza national news, he said.

"Late next week I'll take a look

at that and make a decision," he said. "I'll be surprised if we have no reason to cover Garza."

When a panel of U.S. Court of Appeals 10th Circuit judges denied a stay of McVeigh's execution and the Oklahoma City bomber dropped other appeals, many news organizations stopped worrying about a contingency plan for Garza's federal execution.

Had federal courts granted McVeigh a stay, most media organizations agreed Garza's execution would have been a bigger story. But it wouldn't have compared to the McVeigh media onslaught, Schmidt said.

"You wouldn't see any of this," she said, pointing to FoxNews' gray modular trailer, parked alongside a multitude of others on federal penitentiary grounds. "The story changes."

Garza's crime doesn't have the far-reaching effects McVeigh's did, Linn said.

"The story here is not the first federal execution in 30 years," he said. "You just have to think about peoples' lives."

The public's interest in McVeigh has dictated the Associated Press' coverage of the executions, said Keith Robinson, Indianapolis AP bureau chief.

Currently, the AP plans to use about 30 people to cover the McVeigh execution, including radio, television and wire service personnel. Two reporters, an editor and two photographers would be a likely lineup for Garza execution coverage, Robinson said.

There would have been some more interest if Garza's execution was first - how much more I really don't know," he said.

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Bomb: Doctor was convinced he was dead

► Continued from A1

"I thought I had made a terrible mistake," Rose said, thinking with horror that the natural gas boiler he'd been a part of getting for the Murrah building had exploded. And he had no clue where his mother was - or if she was dead or alive.

Inside the federal building, Dr. Paul Heath was convinced he was dead.

"When I was covered up and totally black, I remember thinking, God, I don't want to die like this," said Heath, a former counseling psychologist for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

He was at his desk shortly after 9 a.m. when three explosions erupted in his ears. His first thought was to get under his desk, but it was too late. He was buried to his armpits in bits and pieces of the building that had been workplace to hundreds of people.

He looked over his right shoulder to see the people and things that made up the Murrah building being sucked into a huge hole - many never to be seen again.

Heath clawed his way from

the debris, then helped a few others out of the building. Rose, still waiting to hear if his mother was alive, helped a limping man find his wife. Those who hadn't been killed or buried in the bombing slowly stumbled onto the street, coughing and bleeding. With glass sticking from their flesh they wondered what happened.

Medical workers, investigators and police bled stress into the morning air on their way downtown to begin the rescue effort. Meanwhile, street-side triage units cared for victims buried away from the scene.

Survivors and family members anxious to find their loved ones gathered on street corners. Rescue workers spent the next 16 days pulling bodies from the rubble. One hundred and sixty-eight went to their graves, including 19 children.

Oklahoma City was a disaster area.

Rose, whose mother survived and paged him from an apartment building next to a roadside medical unit, spent the afternoon calling apartment landlords asking them to get children off of school buses - children who

wouldn't have parents coming home again.

Police searched for those responsible for the blast - today known as the most deadly act of terrorism on U.S. soil. They didn't know that one of the bombers had already been caught.

Approximately 80 miles north and about an hour after the bombing, an Oklahoma state trooper came upon a 1977 car driving north on the interstate with no license plate. Minutes later, the trooper arrested Timothy McVeigh on five gun- and weapon-related misdemeanors. McVeigh was carrying a loaded gun on him.

Normal judicial procedure called for McVeigh to be charged to court the day following his arrest. He would have posted a minor bail and been released. However, the judge in Noble County, Okla., was tied up on another case and McVeigh was held over until Friday.

But before his hearing, Federal Bureau of Investigation officials tied McVeigh to the bombing, and the trooper who arrested McVeigh recognized him from suspect sketches as the Oklahoma City bomber.

A jury handed McVeigh, a Gulf War veteran, the death sentence in 1997 for building and delivering a 7,000-pound fuel and fertilizer bomb that killed eight federal agents in the Murrah building.

The Murrah building was later demolished. In its place, the Oklahoma City National Memorial Center stands, with outdoor memorials, a museum, and a special memorial for the Prevention of Terrorism. Clocks that stopped at 9:02 a.m., pencil sharpeners, and shoes ripped from the feet of victims retell the story in the museum.

Outside, a field of empty chairs pays tribute to the 168 killed.

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■ TRIBUNE-STAR EDITORIAL: The execution of Timothy McVeigh

Americans must know the full story

THE ISSUE

Was there a deeper conspiracy in bombing?

OUR VIEW

Justice is overdue, and so is the truth

U.S. District Court Judge Richard Matsch did the right thing Wednesday when he denied Timothy J. McVeigh a further stay of execution.

A three-judge panel of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals did the right thing Thursday when it, too, refused to further delay McVeigh's execution.

McVeigh himself did the right thing hours later when he decided against a final appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court for more time.

Now the man who bombed the Oklahoma City federal building on April 19, 1995 — thereby murdering 168 men, women and children — again faces execution by lethal injection, this time at 7 a.m. tomorrow.

McVeigh was scheduled to die a month ago. He'd had his day before Judge Matsch four years earlier in a Denver courtroom where a jury found him guilty, then unanimously decided to impose the death penalty.

McVeigh later went public with both his motives and his methods, telling of how a young man dreamed of being a Green Beret but, disillusioned with our government, turned instead to terrorism. A self-styled, modern-day Minuteman, he vowed that as a true patriot his military enemy was the American government and its agents.

He explained his bloody act in Oklahoma City as well-deserved payback — at least in his own twisted mind — for the federal role in Ruby Ridge and fiery Waco. He freely admitted he built

a powerful bomb from fuel and fertilizer, loaded it into a rental truck, parked the vehicle outside the federal building and detonated it.

His cold, calculated crime is recounted, detail after terrible detail, in unadorned narrative throughout 426 pages of "American Terrorist", a best-seller published in April about McVeigh. The book is based on 75 hours of candid jailhouse interviews with McVeigh by former news reporters Lou Michel and Dan Herbeck.

Time passed. Then, three days after Christmas last year, McVeigh decided to drop all further appeals. He petitioned the court for a prompt execution and Judge Matsch responded: May 16, 2001. As weeks went by, penitentiary staff, survivors of the Oklahoma City bombing and the families of victims, the Terre Haute community, the news media and McVeigh himself began preparing for the day of reckoning.

Seven days before McVeigh was to die, the FBI dropped its own bomb — it had discovered 4,400 pages of documents from the agency's extensive bombing investigation that should have been disclosed before McVeigh's trial but weren't.

The next day Attorney General John Ashcroft ordered the execution delayed a month so defense attorneys could review what to them was new evidence.

The FBI had interviewed nearly

30,000 people and gathered 23,290 pieces of evidence and 238,000 photos. Ultimately the bureau had collected and shared more than 500,000 documents with defense lawyers.

No one has come forward to take responsibility for the FBI's failure to disclose the missing documents to McVeigh's defense prior to, or during, his trial. The agency's story of outdated computer systems and botched record-keeping sounded more like an excuse than an adequate explanation.

Although McVeigh had decided not to seek more delays of his execution, the FBI's embarrassing revelation changed his mind and the newly discovered documents became the basis for his final pair of rejected appeals.

Lawyers for the Gulf War veteran argued that buried in that paperwork was evidence — intentionally withheld by the government — that another person may have been the mastermind behind America's worst act of terrorism. To the delight of conspiracy theorists, they suggested that the plot was broader than just McVeigh and convicted co-conspirator Terry Nichols, possibly involving two white supremacists from Oklahoma City.

McVeigh's attorneys reasoned that had they been privy to the documents in 1996 they might have been able to uncover evidence that additional conspirators were involved — something McVeigh has consistently denied. Asking for a longer stay of execution, they

said if they had more time to review the documents they could demonstrate that the FBI suppressed credible evidence that McVeigh and Nichols were not alone in planning and carrying out the bombing. And that, they said, might have made the difference between life in prison or death for Timothy McVeigh.

First Judge Matsch, then the three judges for the circuit court of appeals, decided that neither the missing FBI documents nor defense speculation about the possibility of a wider conspiracy would have changed McVeigh's sentence. In short, McVeigh's latest appeals had nothing to do with his guilt. But then even his attorneys never suggested that, for to do so in light of all the other evidence and McVeigh's own statements would have been ludicrous.

So when McVeigh is executed early tomorrow morning, the state will have taken the life of a mass murderer. His death will not be punishment, but instead the just consequence of his own actions.

Justice will have been done.

But just as the American people deserved justice in the matter of Timothy McVeigh, we also deserve to know the full story behind the missing FBI documents. And when all is told there must be no lingering doubts about whether McVeigh and Nichols had accomplices.

Tribune Star

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001

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EXECUTION OF TIMOTHY McVEIGH

Day of reckoning

Counting
down the
final
hours

BY SHARON COHEN
Associated Press

Timothy McVeigh counted down his final hours Sunday in a stark isolation cell, described as "a dark, cold, and lonely place," and confident he is the "victim" to his twisted one-man war against the government.

McVeigh spent the day in the 14-by-14 foot cell, a "short" with a view of the execution chamber, writing letters of appreciation and goodbye to friends as he awaited death by chemical injection at 7 a.m. today. He communicated with family members Saturday, his attorneys said.

McVeigh was sentenced to die for the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building that killed 168 people, including 19 children — the worst act of terrorism on U.S. soil.

► Turn to COUNTING, A7

'Don't
kill for
me'

BY JASON HATHAMEN
Tribune-Star

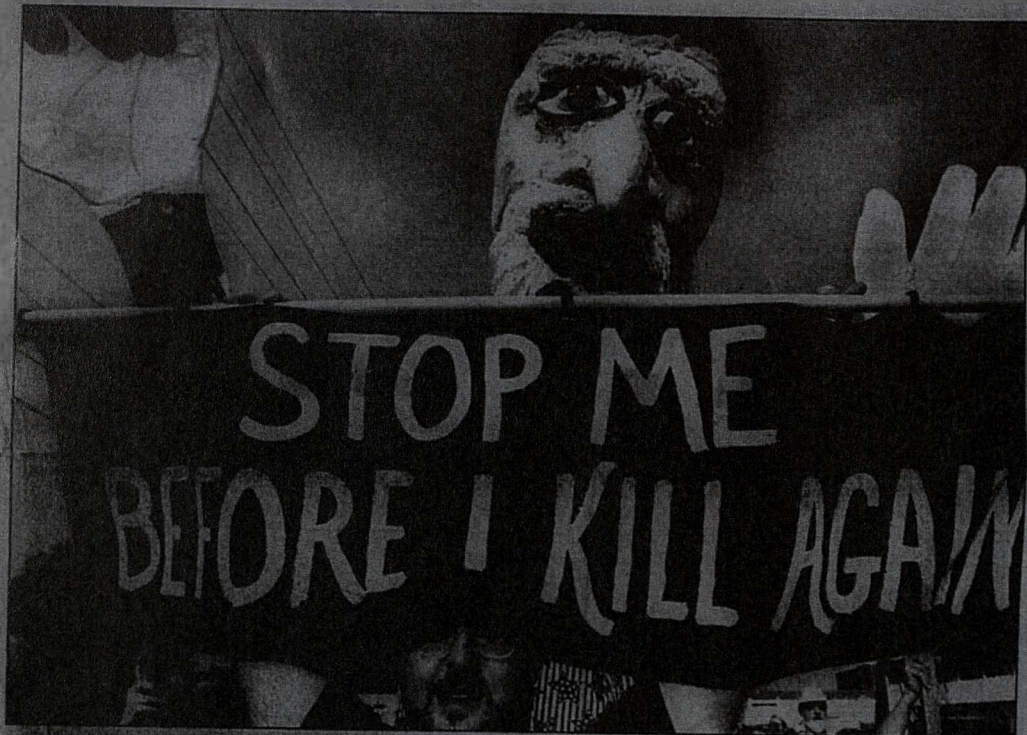
Head drums thumped out a melancholy beat Sunday on the south end of Terre Haute, providing a cadence for about 100 spirited anti-death penalty demonstrators in a 5-mile protest march.

INSIDE

■ Fear of retaliation keeping some death penalty supporters home, A6

Followed by nearly as many news reporters and photographers, the protesters wound west along Voorhees Street, south on U.S. 41 to Margaret Avenue, which led them to Indiana 63 and then to the penitentiary where Timothy McVeigh awaited his execution.

► Turn to MARCH, A7



Tribune-Star/Joseph C. Garcia

Opposed: Abraham J. Bonowitz, director of the Citizens United for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, voices his opposition as he marches from St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church to the U.S. Penitentiary, with a large puppet of Uncle Sam behind him.

Forgive — but don't forget

BY MIKE SMITH
Associated Press

A Catholic priest who has exchanged letters and met with Timothy McVeigh urged his parishioners Sunday to forgive — but not forget — the Oklahoma City bomber's deadly act.

"Our God, through Jesus, asks us to embrace Timothy McVeigh. Not with judgment, leave that to God. Not with execution, our church is against that. But to embrace him with love, with compassion, with a desire to understand him," the Rev. Roo Ashmore said at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church.

Church. "Trust me — in that way, God changes us," Ashmore said during a morning service at the stone church, which is allowing death penalty opponents to stage vigils there.

► Turn to ASHMORE, A7

Preparations: Armed guards walk with the van transporting Timothy McVeigh to the execution facility between 4:10 and 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

Survivors, families ready for this to be over

BY MICHELE HOLTEAMP
Tribune-Star

Timothy McVeigh killed Paul Howell's daughter, Karan Shepherd, when he blew up the Oklahoma City federal building in 1995.

Six years later, Howell will have the chance to look McVeigh in the eyes as he is put to death for his crime.

"It is still kind of hard, I don't

know what the back is going to happen when I get up there," said Howell, 63, who was selected from the pool of survivors to witness McVeigh's execution at the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute this morning.

"I'm trying to get prepared for what McVeigh might say. There are just so many things going on through my mind; it is just unbelievable," Howell said.

McVeigh, who killed 168 people when he blew up the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, is scheduled to die by lethal injection at 7 a.m. today. He will be the first federal criminal put to death since 1963.

Howell will be among 10 survivors and victim witnesses to watch McVeigh's execution in person, separated from McVeigh by only a piece of

glass in a viewing room. Hundreds more will watch via a closed-circuit TV feed in Oklahoma City.

"I'm ready for it to be over with," Howell said. "I just want everything to be over with."

But not all the survivors and witnesses are sure that the horror of the Oklahoma City bombing will end with McVeigh's death.

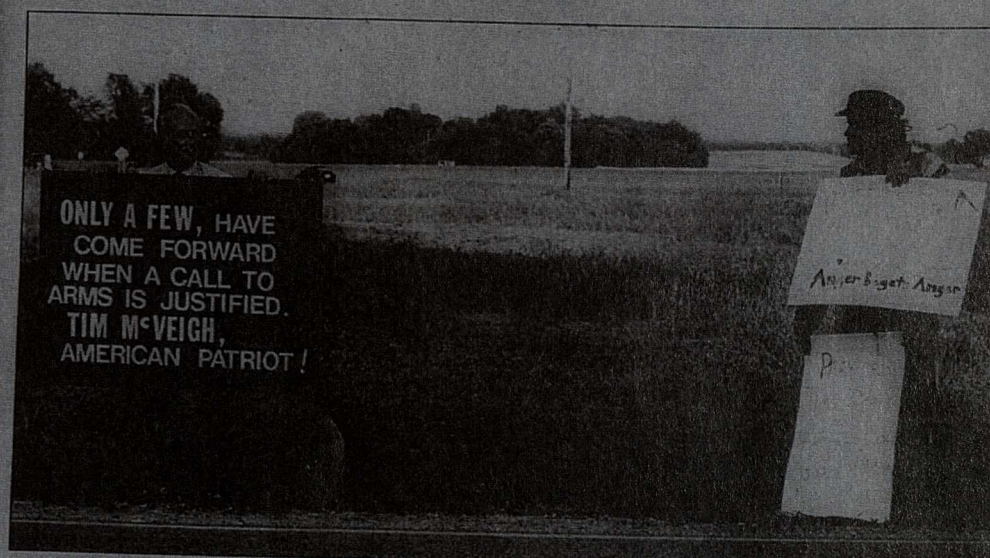
► Turn to SURVIVORS, A7

"I don't know if it'll ever be the end ... I don't think watching a person die is going to be a joy for me."

Roy-Setts, whose wife was killed in the bombing

THE EXECUTION OF TIMOTHY MCVEIGH

Page 1A-1B/Kristen D. Tish



Differing opinions: Kenster Hilmas (right) of Columbus, Ohio, smiles at Chuck Scies of Dayton, Ohio, after Hilmas finished singing "Amazing Grace" Sunday across from the U.S. Penitentiary. Scies' sign characterizes Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh as a "patriot."



Supporter: Terre Haute resident Peggy Harris is one of the few pro-death penalty demonstrators to show up at Voohees Park on Sunday afternoon.

Supporters fear retaliation

BY PATRICIA L. PASTORE
TRIBUNE-STAR

Death penalty advocates blame unforgiving friends of Timothy McVeigh for the light turnout in their camp at Voohees Park.

"Fear of retaliation kept some people home," said Jon Prough, 29, of Oklahoma City who came to support McVeigh's execution by lethal injection today.

Prough and his wife, Carrie, along with one other Oklahoma resident and seven area residents held vigil awaiting news of McVeigh's death after 7 a.m. today. Throughout the night they stood together at Voohees Park holding signs that said "Die, McVeigh, Die," "Justice For All and 'Thou Shalt Not Kill 168 and Live'."

Motorists driving by Voohees Street hummed, waved and even shouted their support. One man in a green car yelled, "I'm with you, we'll celebrate when it's over."

PECKY Harris, 26, of Terre Haute a nursing student at IVY Tech, told those who stopped to talk with her, "People told us they are afraid to be out here," she said. "They are afraid of retaliation. McVeigh has supporters."

People in Oklahoma City couldn't all make the 10-hour trip and some believe it's better to watch him die in a group they were there. They remembered when that bomb went off April 19, 1995 when 168 men, women and children died.

Prough recalls how McVeigh waited to take revenge for the killings at Waco and Ruby Ridge. "We are a little nervous about being here," he said. "We hope there will be no retaliation here."

because of the execution but nobody knows what might happen. I came because I had to come for those who died at his hands."

Just blocks away more than 100 pro-life people and others who advocate abolishing the death penalty rallied and spoke of how McVeigh's execution gave them the opportunity to let their voices be heard.

McVeigh might suffer more if he were to be kept alive in a cell for the rest of his life, said Kip Bickner of Iowa City Iowa.

"Killing McVeigh isn't the answer to healing the victims' relatives," he said. "Killing him gives him what he wants. He wants to be a hero martyr to his cause punishing the U.S. government for WACO. He thinks he is a true patriot."

Bickner doesn't think any action will be taken now by people averting McVeigh's death, he said.

Coroner prepares to sign death certificate

Mayes says manner of death likely homicide

ASSOCIATED PRESS • TERRE HAUTE

Kevin Mayes can't recall how many death certificates he's signed

during his 13 years on the job as a coroner.

Monday morning, however, Mayes expects to sign a death certificate he will never forget — Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh's.

"Certainly, it will be different," Mayes said Sunday, hours before McVeigh's scheduled execution.

Once the execution is over early Monday, Vigo County Coroner Susan Amos will conduct an external examination of the body. If all appears normal, she will pronounce McVeigh dead. Mayes, the chief deputy coroner, will then sign the death certificate and the body will be released to U.S. marshals. If something unusual is found

during the examination, Amos can ask U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch of Denver, who presided over McVeigh's 1997 trial, for permission to perform a full autopsy.

The death certificate will include all the standard features: McVeigh's name, the date, time and cause of death and the manner

of death — likely to be homicide.

The cause probably will be lethal injection, Mayes said. "But the manner of death, in my suspicion, will be homicide. Most people roll their eyes because they think of a homicide as a murder. But the definition of a homicide in Indiana is when one person kills another person."

In a recent letter to The Buffalo News, McVeigh said he wants to be cremated and that his ashes will be scattered at a secret location.



MAYES

TODAY'S CLOSINGS

The following offices and programs will be closed Monday:

- Gov. Frank O'Bannon announced that several state offices in Vigo County will be closed. The declaration affects only non-essential state employees whose work site is in Vigo County.

These offices affected are as follows:

- Department of Workforce Development (downtown).
- Family and Social Services Administration/Division of Family and Children (downtown).
- Family and Social Services Administration/Vocational Rehabilitation (downtown).
- Department of Revenue (downtown).
- Indiana Department of Transportation.
- Bureau of Motor Vehicles.
- Department of Corrections Parole Office. Employees scheduled to work shall be given leave.

with pay, unless required to work. Employees required to work shall be granted compensatory time on an hour-for-hour basis for such hours worked.

- CHANCES KFC Summer Camp will close Monday at Deming Elementary and Chaucery Rose Middle School. Camp will resume Tuesday.

- All sites of Ivy Tech State College-Walsh Valley Region will be closed, but Cisco classes will be in session from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the south campus.

- Covered Bridge Girl Scout Council will also close Monday.

- Terre Haute City Hall.

- Vigo County Annex Building and County Highway Department.

- Vigo County courthouse.

- Vigo County Public Library branches. All public library branches will be closed Saturday in anticipation of the execution, and they are normally closed Sunday during the summer.

- Regardless of whether the execution is on or off, the start of summer school for the Vigo County School Corp. will be delayed until Tuesday, said Superintendent Dan Tanous. Summer school was scheduled to begin Monday.

- The School Board meeting originally scheduled for Monday evening will instead occur at 7 p.m. Tuesday and that time will not change, Tanous said.

- Additionally, all school facilities will be closed and all athletic events and practices will be canceled, Tanous said.

- The federal building at Seventh and Cherry streets will remain open Monday, and several of its offices also will be open, including the post office branch, U.S. District Court, U.S. Marshall's office, Western Indiana Community Action Agency and the office of U.S. Congressman Brian Kerns. The clerk's office for the U.S. District Court may close, but a decision had not been made by Thursday, said Laura Briggs, clerk of the court.

- The YWCA plans to close Monday if the execution occurs.

April 19, 1995 — Bomb riots through the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City at 9:02 a.m. McVeigh arrested on firearms charge about 90 minutes later after routine traffic stop. Last survivor of blast pulled from wreckage late that night.

April 20 — Authorities release sketches of suspects John Doe No. 1 and John Doe No. 2.

April 21 — Federal authorities arrest McVeigh, who resembles sketch of John Doe No. 1, in connection with bombing only hours before he was expected to make bail on firearms charge. Terry Nichols, eventually convicted as co-conspirator, surrenders.

May 4 — Rescue workers and search for victims. Final death count stands at 168.

May 10 — Nichols formally charged in bombing.

June 14 — Federal authorities admit sketches of alleged John Doe No. 2 resembled innocent Army private.

Aug. 11 — Federal grand jury indicts McVeigh and Nichols on murder and conspiracy charges, but finds they acted with "deliberate unknown."

MCVEIGH CHRONOLOGY

Michael Fortier pleads guilty to minor firearms charge as part of plea bargain.

Oct. 20 — Attorney General Janet Reno gives prosecutors permission to seek death penalty against McVeigh and Nichols.

Feb. 20, 1996 — Chief U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch moves case to Denver, ruling McVeigh and Nichols have been "demonstrated" by intense media coverage in Oklahoma.

March 31, 1997 — Jury selection begins in McVeigh's trial.

June 2 — Jury convicts McVeigh on all 11 murder and conspiracy counts against him.

June 13 — Jury condemns McVeigh to die by injection.

Aug. 14 — McVeigh formally sentenced to death.

Sept. 8 — 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals affirms conviction.

Dec. 23 — Nichols convicted of conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter, acquitted of weapons and explosives charges.

June 4, 1998 — Matsch, calling Nichols an "enemy of the Constitution," sentences him to life in prison without parole.

March 8, 1999 — U.S. Supreme Court rejects McVeigh's appeal.

Oct. 12, 2000 — U.S. District Court in Denver denies McVeigh's request for new trial.

Dec. 28 — Matsch holds hearing to make sure McVeigh understands he's dropping appeals. McVeigh says he wants execution date set, but reserves right to seek presidential clemency.

Jan. 11, 2001 — McVeigh lets deadline pass for changing his decision.

Jan. 16 — United States sets May 16 execution date.

Feb. 16 — McVeigh lets clemency filing deadline pass.

May 10 — Justice Department begins turning over thousands of FBI bombing investigation documents to Nichols's attorneys.

May 11 — Attorney General John Ashcroft delays McVeigh's execution until June 11.

May 31 — McVeigh agrees to seek delay in execution.

June 6 — Matsch rejects request to delay execution.

June 7 — 10th U.S. Circuit denies appeal. McVeigh abandons further appeals.

Counting: McVeigh feels he is the victor, according to attorney

Continued from A1

"He once told me that in the cruelest of terms, it's 168 to one," Less Mitchell, co-author of "American Terrorist: Timothy McVeigh & the Oklahoma City Bombing," said Sunday on ABC's This Week.

"He feels he is the victor," said Mitchell, who will be one of McVeigh's witnesses. He has guided his point, and he's going on to whatever is the next step."

McVeigh attorneys Rob High and Nathan Chambers met with their client for about two hours Sunday afternoon.

"He is calm," High said at a press briefing afterward. "He is prepared to go forward. Quite frankly, he is ready to die."

High also conveyed McVeigh's regrets about the people he killed, but stopped short of offering an apology, saying his client has struggled with that nightly.

He has tried to express as best as he can that he is sorry for the

deaths that occurred," High said. "That is not to say that he doesn't believe that he was right."

"I don't think there's anything that he could say that would ever make it any better or would ever reduce the suffering," High added.

Chambers said McVeigh's mood was upbeat.

"He continues to be affable," the attorney said. "He continues to be rational in his discourse. He maintains his sense of humor."

McVeigh was transferred from his 8-by-10-foot cell at the U.S. Penitentiary to the holding cell at 4:10 a.m. Sunday and secured 20 minutes later. He was cooperative and the move occurred without incident, U.S. Bureau of Prisons officials said.

"He was able to look up in the sky and see the moon for the first time in a number of years," High said. McVeigh, he added, slept a few hours Saturday night and planned to do the same before his execution.

The isolation chamber has been

ten walls, a narrow bed, a sink and toilet, a television and a window that allows a guard to see an adjacent room to check on him.

"Watching the video of him being moved was surreal," Chambers said in an interview outside the prison. "Look around us, all these people gathered to watch someone die."

McVeigh had been scheduled to have the last meal of his choice at noon. All he asked for was two pieces of mint chocolate chip ice cream, according to a prison spokesman.

In Oklahoma City, survivors and victims' relatives mingled with tourists Sunday in front of a memorial to those killed. Survivor Richard Williams, who volunteers at the site, said he felt a heightened sense of anticipation as he approached the area.

"I think I'm ready," said Williams, who was an assistant manager at the building and had to dig out of debris after the bombing. "I'm ready for this part

of the journey to be over."

In a Sunday service at St. Margaret Mary Church in Terre Haute, the Rev. Ron Ashmore told about 80 parishioners to pray for the families who lost loved ones in the bombing. He also asked them not to condemn McVeigh.

"If we approach people with hardness, if we approach people with violence — whether it's the violence of what we're reinstating in our country, capital punishment ... we create violence in our world," he said.

By late Sunday afternoon, only about 75 anti-death penalty activists embarked on a three-mile march to the penitentiary to protest the execution. Some carried 14-foot puppets of Uncle Sam and Jesus and banners that read "Stop the Killing."

In Washington, the U.S. Supreme Court on Sunday rejected without comment an attempt to videotape McVeigh's execution, which was part of an unrelated

case alleging the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment.

McVeigh, 33, a decorated Gulf War veteran, will be the first federal inmate executed in 38 years.

Don Herbeck, co-author of the McVeigh book, said Sunday that the FBI's recent disclosure that it didn't hand over nearly 4,500 pages of documents to the defense confirmed McVeigh's suspicions about the government.

"If a man can smile on death row, Tim McVeigh was smiling these last few weeks," he said in an interview outside the prison.

"He always believed they were withholding documents, and it turns out he was at least partially right."

McVeigh has maintained he planned the 2000-pound bomb to teach the government a lesson for its out-of-control behavior, particularly its disastrous federal raid at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, and near Waco, Texas.

In an excerpt from letters to The Buffalo News released Saturday,

McVeigh called the bombing "a legit tactic."

After more than 75 hours of interviews with McVeigh, Herbeck said he remains struck by two strikingly different sides to McVeigh's personality.

"He can be such a pleasant and nice person, and I know that's hard to believe," he said. "But then when you hit one of his nerves, like when you mention the U.S. government, he becomes a completely different person."

"His rage at the government was so strong that he would actually boast about the bombing at times," Herbeck added.

In one of the letters to the Buffalo newspaper, McVeigh talked about his affliction.

For McVeigh, "death is part of his adventure," Herbeck said on ABC. "Not the old idea that when he finds out if they're alive, he will improvise, adapt, and overcome, just like they taught him in the Army."

March: Protesters came from around country

Continued from A1

Demonstrators sang anti-death penalty songs, chanted anti-death penalty chants and carried signs with such slogans as "Don't Kill For Me" and "Thou Shall Not Kill."

Members of the Bloomington Unitarian Universalist Church provided two towering paper-mache puppets for the march — one of Uncle Sam, the other of Jesus. Each bore a message, requiring one person to stand inside and two to hold up the arms, here several anti-death penalty messages written on the outside.

Demonstrators came from all over the country to participate in the march, peacefully expressing their grievances with the death penalty. Terrence Abolition Network president Suzanne Carter couldn't help but have mixed feelings about the event, though, in regards to the execution that was scheduled this morning.

"There's mixed feelings," she said. "I wish we weren't doing this. I wish this wasn't happening. I wish we were getting together to celebrate abolition [of the death penalty]. There's just a lot of good people coming to Terre Haute for a lot of bad things."

Carolyn Gray came all the way from Jupiter, Fla., to express her support for the anti-death penalty cause.

"I came from Florida to speak out against my government, not because I don't love my country, but because my government has committed a wrong," she said. "If people knew the truth about the death penalty they wouldn't support it and the reason they don't know the truth is that the politicians have done a good job covering it up."

"When the government sets an example by killing its own citizens, it sends out a message that it's OK to kill. It shows a lack of respect for life and it copies the act of the killer."

Disagreement with this message takes from the government's actions is also what drew St. Louis couple Gary and Mary Millin to the march.

"It feels good to be around fellow abolitionists," she said. "It makes you feel like you're not a voice in the wilderness ... I'm basically here because I have two small children, ages 3 and 5, and I don't like the lesson that the death penalty teaches. The government is teaching them that the death penalty is OK."

Indiana State University criminalology professor Mark Hamm, who wrote the Oklahoma City bombing book "Apocalypse in Oklahoma: Waco and Ruby Ridge Reweaved," expressed his anti-death penalty stance at the march.

He doesn't want to see the penitentiary become a place of mass execution as other penitentiaries



Marchers Dennis Awest of Chicago carries his granddaughter, Jamerica Bevel, 4, during the anti-death penalty march Sunday evening.

have in the past.

"It's just an important thing to do," he said. "There's 24 men on death row there right now and eventually the government's going to line them all up and kill them. I don't like the lesson that the death penalty teaches. The government is teaching them that the death penalty is OK."

Indiana State University criminalology professor Mark Hamm, who wrote the Oklahoma City bombing book "Apocalypse in Oklahoma: Waco and Ruby Ridge Reweaved," expressed his anti-death penalty stance at the march.

He doesn't want to see the penitentiary become a place of mass execution as other penitentiaries

duty was to take an unbiased stance and focus on maintaining peace on both sides. Most came from the town of Michigan Peace Town, which uses the principles of non-violent demonstration taught by Mahatma Gandhi to keep a peaceful atmosphere at potentially violent demonstrations.

Michigan Peace Town member Mark Mathison, of Grand Rapids, Mich., didn't expect any violence on the march or other demonstrations.

"We don't really anticipate any problems," he said. "We're extremely concerned with the amount of organization the local groups have put into this. There's some great people here."

Along the march, police escorted demonstrators and with little opposition from onlookers, aside from the occasional shaking head or jeer from the driver of a passing car. Some honked their horns and shouted encouragement at the demonstrators for their effort.

"That is the most important thing about the abolition movement — educating people and making them think about the death penalty," Gary Millin said. "I think that's the only good thing to come of this situation. People are talking about the death penalty and thinking about it. I mean, if you're going to be pro-death penalty, at least do some research on it."

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Survivors: 'I hope a little bit of that anger goes away'

Continued from A1

"I don't know if I'll ever be the end," said Roy Sells, an Oklahoma City man whose wife, Lee, was killed in the bombing. Her body wasn't recovered in the rubble for 10 days. "It'll be the last step in McVeigh's life, but for me, life will go on," Sells said. "I don't think watching a person die is going to be a joy for me."

McVeigh became America's most notorious, home-grown terrorist when he detonated a 2,000-pound truck bomb in front of the federal building. In his mind, he was striking back at the government for the deaths at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco and at Ruby Ridge, Idaho.

He has never expressed any remorse for the killings. He called 19 children killed in the building's day care "collateral damage."

McVeigh was arrested the day of the bombing during a traffic stop, and by the end of the week the FBI had linked him to the bombing. He was sentenced to die in 1997.

Doug Rogers, who was the manager of the Murrah building and helped run it from the day it opened until the day it was destroyed, is anxious to see McVeigh die.

The day they caught him, and of course the day they found him guilty in Denver, especially that day, I couldn't wait for him to meet this state," said Rogers, who was in the building when the bomb exploded. "I've been quite looking forward to this."

Rogers, 60, of Norman, Okla., is part of the group of victims who hired a lawyer to assure the closed-circuit broadcast of the execution be led to Oklahoma City. But he won't be among the hundreds of survivors and victims who gather in Oklahoma City today to watch.

He plans on sitting at his ranch home with his wife and watching news of the execution unfold on television.

"I've been really mad and really upset for many years, because he took away so many lives," Rogers said, reflecting on five years of depression, survivor guilt and nightmares that followed the bombing. But the moment McVeigh dies, "I hope a little bit of that anger will go away," he said.

Calvin Mower isn't looking for a great release of anger when he and his wife, Ginny, huddle in the crowd of survivors watching via closed circuit in Oklahoma.

"I feel like I have an obligation to the friends and colleagues of mine who were lost in this bombing to go," he said.

Although at least 1,400 members of the media will cover the execution live from Terre Haute, Mower sees the execution as a "total event."

"What we're actually going to witness is someone being sedated. They go to sleep, are taken out on a gurney and then it's over," he said. "Mower, who still works for the federal government in the Department of Native American Programs, lost more than half his hearing in the bombing. The stress caused him to develop diabetes. Today, he still loses his balance and can never rid his ears of the constant ringing. Every now and then, a piece of glass will work out of his flesh."

His wife came searching for him in the building and ended up sitting with children's bodies brought out from the building's day care. Their lives have never been the same since.

As long as McVeigh is alive, he said, he will continue to haunt those who survived the bombing or lost loved ones. The only way to put an end to McVeigh's reign of terror and pain is "for him to be gone," Mower said.

Not all the survivors agree. There are those who, despite tremendous losses, still don't support the death penalty.

Bud Welch, who lost his only daughter, Julie, in among them. At first, Welch said, he wanted to see McVeigh die. "I'd have killed him myself if I thought I had a chance to do it," he said in an interview earlier this year, shortly before he came to Terre Haute to spread his message of forgiveness.

But he could not move on with his life while holding onto the hate, he said. He let go of his rage, he said, and remains an outspoken opponent of the death penalty, even in McVeigh's case.

"Julie's death grips me every single day. But I don't live with that vengeance and rage every day," he said. "Some people here in Oklahoma City still live with it. Some will still live with that vengeance and rage after they take Timothy McVeigh from this cage and execute him."

But for those like Rogers, keeping McVeigh alive serves no purpose. "I think he's a madman who doesn't have a conscience," Rogers said. "And those kind of people, we don't need them here on this earth."

Howell, who will watch McVeigh take his final breaths, thinks the execution will give him a certain peace of mind. "It is kind of like what we call out of sight, not of mind," Howell said. "That's what I'm hoping this person will be."

Ashmore: Priest believes McVeigh is at peace, not afraid of death

Continued from A1

Some parishioners said they took Ashmore's words to heart.

"What I don't like to see, and I see so much, is people wanting vengeance, and I hope their hearts can be changed," Gary Benfante said.

While Sunday's service was not structured around McVeigh's execution, Ashmore referred to him and the 168 victims of the 1995

bombing several times. The church program also contained a list of all the victims, along with quotes from death penalty opponents.

Afterward, Ashmore, who has talked with McVeigh at the prison since a couple of miles away, said he believed McVeigh was at peace.

"Personally, I believe Tim will be at peace, with — as strange as it may seem — all of those people who died by his violent act, a hor-

rible act, an act of darkness and what we would call sin," Ashmore said. "But God doesn't judge us by the worst action of our life, but judges us by the movement of our heart toward him."

Ashmore said he last corresponded with McVeigh a week before his final May 16 execution date. The priest said he sent a letter to McVeigh about a week ago, but did not expect to receive a

reply because of the impending execution.

Ashmore said McVeigh, described as an agnostic by some who know him, believes in God, "but maybe not the God you believe in."

"If I were Tim, and I heard those people who say they are followers of Jesus express such hatred to him, condemning him to the deepest regions of hell, I wouldn't

believe in that God either," Ashmore said.

Ashmore said McVeigh was not afraid of death.

"He's dealing with the fact that he is the most hated man in the United States at this time," he said. "He is loved by some, and some people have been able to share that acceptance of love."

"Hopefully that light of those who have loved him — his father,

his sister, myself, his lawyers and some other people — hopefully that in the end will be what Tim carries through death into the kingdom, not all the hatred that is around."

The Sisters of the Woods held a special 20-minute prayer service early Sunday night for McVeigh in which they prayed for God to be with him in his final hours.

■ TRIBUNE-STAR EDITORIAL: The execution of Timothy McVeigh

Let our thoughts be with victims

THE ISSUE

The final episode in execution drama

OUR VIEW

It's not easy, but thoughts about victims should prevail today rather than thoughts about McVeigh

Painful imagery should be pushed aside today

Today we should think more of good things than of bad.

Our thoughts should linger more on Timothy J. McVeigh's victims than McVeigh, on their lives rather than his death.

But that's not an easy thing to do. Today you may have heard the church bells tolling in Terre Haute — 168 times, once for each of the mothers and sons, fathers and daughters, sisters and brothers whose lives were taken from them so abruptly that warm spring day six years ago.

The innocents and their deaths in

Oklahoma City, a murderer and his death in a prison outside Terre Haute — life and death so intertwined in a jumbled weave of coincidence and cause and effect, so shrouded in sadness that a nation finds it hard to consider one and not the other.

So we return again and again to scenes borne by the news media that were seared, forever, into our collective memory:

■ Laughing youngsters in a day-care center ...

■ Smoke, dust, shattered walls ...

■ McVeigh proudly photographed in a crisp Army khaki ...

■ A fireman carrying a bleeding baby from the rubble ...

■ The colorful, patriotic flutter of a flag outside the Murrah Building ...

■ Shocked disbelief on faces in the gathering crowd ...

■ McVeigh, lean and clean-cut, led handcuffed to his trial ...

■ A man's face, wet with tears, as he grieved for a wife dead in that day's horror.

But we must try to turn our thoughts away from such painful imagery. Think instead of life, of promise, of nurturing families, of bright futures.

Yes, today we should think more of good things than of bad. Our thoughts should linger more on McVeigh's victims than McVeigh, on their lives rather than his death. But that's not an easy thing to do.

Maybe it will be easier tomorrow.

READERS' FORUM

Pope's words should be put into action

The words of President Bush at the opening of the Pope John Center in Washington are significant.

"The best way to honor Pope John Paul II, truly one of the great men," President Bush said, "is to take his teaching seriously; to listen to his words and put words and teachings into action here in America. This is a challenge we must accept." When President Bush made this speech, I wondered if this could be the end of capital punishment.

I pray earnestly and daily that President Bush will truly put the Pope's words and teachings into action in these United States.

— Father John F. Deeds
Terre Haute

FBI needs proven officer as director

In the wake of government raids gone amok, i.e., Waco, Randy Weaver, etc., I believe someone needs to give credit where credit is due.

Sheriff Phil Jarvis of Idaho successfully ended the recent highly publicized siege in Sand Point, Idaho, without any one getting killed or injured. Sheriff Jarvis exercised patience and restraint when he talked the five armed McGuckin children into leaving their home with no bloodshed.

It's so refreshing to see a government siege with no casualties, for a change.

Since President Bush is actively looking for someone to head up the FBI, why not consider Sheriff Jarvis?

— Alexander B. Magnus
Arlington Heights, Ill.

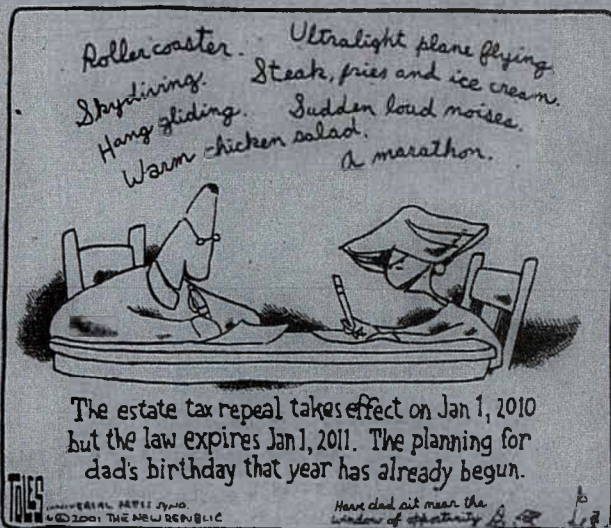
It's time to think about freedoms

Our independence, strength and freedom today is because of individual proud Americans. I urge you to stop the globalization of the gun control issue on our shores. I also want to remind you that our nation must never bow to intervention by a foreign power. Also that the rights and liberty of the American people are not negotiable.

The United Nations says we have too much freedom in the United States. The United Nations has no business meddling in the affairs of the United States. Do not allow the United Nations to destroy our freedom or change any part of our constitution, particularly the second amendment.

It is time to do some serious thinking about the freedom of our future generations. Our forefathers founded this nation to be free people. This one world conspiracy that comes from the United Nations Building in New York has no place in the United States of America.

— Donald E. Haber
Brazil



Hideaway? Who's he think he's kidding

See, this is exactly why I don't spend my weekends with John McCain anymore.

You've probably heard by now — there are goat herders in Uzbekistan who have probably heard by now — that the senior senator from Arizona recently had the senior senator from South Dakota to his Sedona ranch for a visit, just a social occasion, McCain assured me and all — the two men and their wives, another man and his wife. Hiking. Fishing. Gazing at the gorgeous red rocks. That sort of thing.

Except for the fact that the senior senator from South Dakota was one Tim Wirth, a Democrat, who at that very moment was just days away from becoming Minority Leader of the Senate thanks to the defection of one of McCain's fellow Republicans. And except for the fact that the other man was one Bruce Reel — another Democrat, the former domestic policy adviser to Bill Clinton (also a Democrat), and now the president of the Democratic Leadership Council.

All of which set tongues to wagging, all weekend long and ever since. "What's McCain up to?" "Is he jumping ship?" "Is he sticking it to Bush again?" And so on. And so on. If Wirth and Reel were hoping for some quiet time away from the office, away from all that high-level political intrigue, they picked the wrong vacation, and the wrong host.

I could have told them that. "Tuck John here — why don't you folks come out for the weekend?" He didn't have to say which "John." If the phone rang late on a Thursday afternoon, it was John McCain. He and Cindy were calling to invite us to spend a few days with them at the

hideaway.

"Fish are jumping," he'd say. "And the cactus is high." It always sounded too good to be true, so we'd throw a few things into our bags and catch the first flight to Phoenix: they'd meet us at the airport and drive us up to the cabin. From the first time we ever set foot in the place, I could see why they loved it so much. It was the perfect spot to kick back, to get away from it all. I could hardly wait to drop my line into the water.

"Gimme a minute," he'd say. "I have to check CNN." And he'd go off into his little study and turn on the TV. A half hour later, he'd come out, a big smile on his face. CNN was reporting our visit, he'd say. It was the lead story. "McCain hosts guested columnist."

I was flattered, of course — it's not every day I'm the lead story on CNN. But we weren't out there to make news. We were out there to relax. I'd remind him about the fishing.

"Gimme a minute," he'd say. "I have to get my cell phone." Which he'd do, and then he'd throw all the rest of the gear into the back of a jeep and the four of us would head up into the mountains toward one of their favorite fishing spots. Except that all the way up there, he'd be trying to get onto the Internet.

"I know they'll have something on MSNBC," he'd say. "McCain handles with columnist" — they wouldn't miss

a story like this." And then he'd talk about how reception was so unpredictable in the mountains, how the cabin was the only place he could really be sure of a decent connection, how maybe we should forget about the fishing for a while and turn back.

"Whatever you say," I'd tell him. I'd try not to let my disappointment show.

So we'd return to the cabin and he'd run straight to the study. "Still the lead story?" he'd shout out to us. Sometimes they'd even have reaction to our visit from some of his Senate colleagues. He could watch this stuff for hours. Occasionally I'd get up the courage to interrupt him: Any chance of going for a little hike? It's so beautiful out here, it would be a waste not to —

"Gimme a minute," he'd say. "I have to put out a press release." He'd sit there at his computer, pecking at the keyboard until he was satisfied. Then he'd send it out and hand me a copy.

"As I have said repeatedly," it would say. "I have no intention of leaving the Republican Party to become a syndicated columnist, nor do I have any cause to leave the Republican Party to become a syndicated columnist. I hope this will put an end to further speculation on this subject."

Then he'd look at me with that grin of his. "They'll love the wiggly words," he'd say. "We never did go fishing."

Rick Horowitz is a syndicated columnist. Visit his Web site at www.yesrick.com.

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Tribune Star

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MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001

SERVING TERRE HAUTE AND THE WABASH VALLEY

50¢ NEWSSTAND

'... I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul'

Timothy McVeigh, 33, was pronounced dead at 7:14 a.m. by Warden Harley Lappin at the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute. Instead of making an oral statement, McVeigh issued a copy of the 1875 poem "Invictus," which follows:

Invictus

*Out of the night
that covers me,
Black as the Pit
from pole to pole,
I thank whatever
gods may be
For my
unconquerable
soul.*

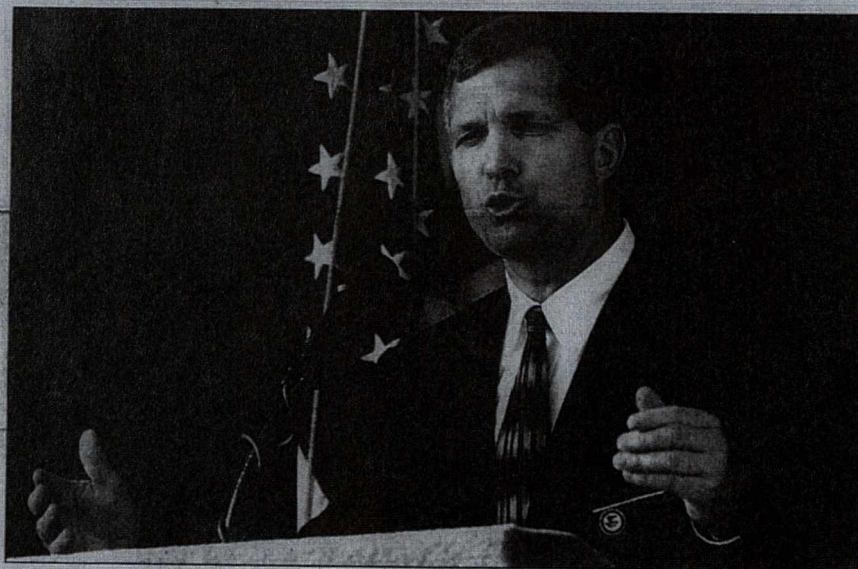
*In the fell clutch
of circumstance
I have not winced
nor cried aloud,
Under the
bludgeonings of
chance
My head is bloody,
but unbowed.*

*Beyond this place
of wraith and tears
Looms but the
horror of the
shade,
And yet the
menace of the
years
Finds, and shall
find me, unafraid.*

*It matters not
how strait the
gate,
How charged with
punishments the
scroll,
I am the master of
my fate:
I am the captain
of my soul.*

— William Ernest Henley

McVeigh executed



The announcement: Warden Harley Lappin responds to questions from reporters during a briefing outside the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute today after announcing that Timothy McVeigh had been executed.

Oklahoma City bomber was cooperative, calm in minutes before his death

By SUE LOUGHIN AND MICHELLE HOLTEAMP
TRIBUNE STAFF

Timothy J. McVeigh calmly cooperated to his own death early this morning, declining to speak any final words and nodding to and making eye contact with those who watched him die at the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute.

McVeigh was pronounced dead at 7:14 a.m., just minutes after positioning himself on the gurney in the prison's execution chamber and after straining

against the gurney straps to his head to look each of his own witnesses and each media witness in the eye.

The mastermind of the April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City bombing in which 168 people died in the country's worst act of domestic terrorism, McVeigh, 33, died soon after a lethal cocktail of drugs began to flow into his veins through a tube in his right leg at 7:10 a.m.

"The court order to execute inmate Timothy J. McVeigh has been fulfilled," said prison Warden

Harley Lappin at the news conference immediately after the execution.

"Inmate McVeigh was calm throughout the entire process. He cooperated entirely," Lappin said. McVeigh died with his eyes open, staring at the ceiling, said Karin Grander, reporter for the Tribune Star who was among the media witnesses at the execution, which she described as "very merile."



Timothy McVeigh, 33, was pronounced dead at 7:14 a.m. today.

► Turn to EXECUTED, Page 2

Hours leading to execution go 'as planned'

By SUZANNE RILEY
TRIBUNE STAFF

A drunken driving arrest in front of the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute, captured the interest of the media early this morning, briefly diverting attention from protesters who gathered

there for the execution of Timothy McVeigh.

Several police cars with lights flashing surrounded a small maroon car around 1:30 a.m. in front of the anti-death penalty protest area on U.S. 63. Witnesses near the scene said the driver had cut off a bus dropping off

protesters. Earnie Garver, 55, of 3203 N. 13th St., was arrested by U.S. Marshals for driving while intoxicated. He was taken to the Vigo County jail, where he will remain without bail until his first court appearance on Tuesday. He could not be reached for comment. Protest and media activity on prison

grounds was less dramatic.

"Everything is going as planned," said Mary Beth Cully, spokeswoman for the Bureau of Prisons.

Sunday night began with an 11 p.m. news conference in which Bureau of Prisons spokesman Dan Dunne told reporters that McVeigh ordered two

pints of mint chocolate chip ice cream as his last official meal, which was served at noon. The ice cream was an unknown brand from a community store, prison spokesman Jim Cross said later.

► Turn to HOURS, Page 2

THE EXECUTION OF TIMOTHY McVEIGH

Demonstrators pray for McVeigh, victims' families

'Executions are wrong. It is a moral issue, death penalty opponent says

By PATRICIA L. PATTERSON
TRIBUNE STAR

As a crimson moon hung in the dark sky early Monday morning, death penalty protesters at Fairbanks Park gathered their hands in bright red paint, then left their handprints on a long banner. "Don't Kill in Our Name," read the 6-by-15-foot banner, prepared by the protesters, who had gathered on the eve of today's execution of Timothy McVeigh at the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute.

The red ink handprints signify, "Don't spill blood in the name of every American citizen," according to Sylvia Oster of Terre Haute, who claims she has been against the death penalty for at least 25 years. "It started when I became a Unitarian Universalist," she said. "We believe in the inherent worth and dignity of every person."

Terre Haute is a wonderful

place. It is a gentle place. Don't let [McVeigh's execution] define us."

The color of the moon meant different things to different people late Sunday night and early this morning, when protesters and supporters of the death penalty joined others in marking the first federal execution since 1963.

For Peter Harris, 26, a nursing student who admitted wanting to pull the killing drugs in McVeigh's vein, the color meant "there is blood on the moon."

"The blood red moon is in sympathy for the 168 women, men and children whose blood are on Timothy McVeigh's hands," Harris said. But Mary Kahl and her husband Phillip Kahl of Cincinnati, Ohio, saw the red moon as a protest against McVeigh's execution.

"We are here to witness against the death penalty," said Mary Kahl, who carried a sign saying, "Vengeance is mine says the Lord."

Anderson native J. Jackson, a resident of Oklahoma City for the past 30 years, came to witness earthly justice for McVeigh's crime against humanity.

"I'm here because it's the right thing to do," said Jackson, who

assisted the Oklahoma City Medical Examiner's office after the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building.

It was her job to notify victims' family members that their loved ones were dead, she said.

"It is a final sentence in a very long paragraph that should have ended a long time ago," Jackson said through tight lips.

"It wasn't an outside terrorist who killed these American citizens. It was one of our own people. Killing McVeigh might not stop the atrocities, but it sends a message to others who might try the same thing. This is the price you pay. Today is payday for McVeigh."

Her 77-year-old mother, Florence Meade of Anderson, is firm in her belief McVeigh deserves to die, she said.

"He showed no sympathy for those who died," she said. "I had a son who was murdered, shot twice in the head while he was working at a gas station in Anderson. I believe in an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. It's in the Bible."

Justice, however, can be a bitter thing, said Sister Juan Siles, spokeswoman for the Sisters of Providence, who have opposed the death penalty for many years.

"Today, the justice system is uneven," she said as a furrow formed on her brow. "Why does one person take a life and get the death penalty, and others kill and don't get put to death?"

Other countries believe the United States is sending mixed messages with the death penalty, she said.

"Everyone is absolutely befuddled that in a civilized society we continue this practice" of putting people to death, she said. "We test ourselves as leaders when it comes to human rights. That is kind of the pot calling the kettle black."

McVeigh's high-profile case and execution is helping people against the death penalty to get their message out, Soble noted.

"It has helped a lot of people get a sense of how the rest of the world looks at us because of our position on this issue," she said.

As McVeigh's life ebbed away, Russell Braun and Angie Tarter, said, they would be praying for the 168 victims and their family members.

"We are here for love," said Tarter, 30, who recently graduated from Indiana State University with a degree in criminology. "Everyone is so focused on McVeigh. They

aren't thinking how he took 168 lives and forever changed the lives of thousands of others. We are here for them. We are praying for their families."

Death penalty opponents are not saying McVeigh is innocent of this horrendous crime. No one believes he is innocent, said Ken Rickover of Iowa City, Iowa.

"I think McVeigh is the worst person to prison today," he said hours before the execution. "This is the first time anyone has been executed in the name of all the United States citizens since 1963. The last federal execution was in Iowa. As a result of that execution, we abolished the death penalty."

Those who advocate the death penalty gathered at Voorhees Park until about midnight and then they moved to a special spot on the prison grounds. That group of 10 grew by at least two. Thad and Martha Brown, the parents of four children, they decided despite their children's protests that they had to join people who agree those who commit heinous crimes should die.

"There were so few of them," Martha Brown said after joining the pro-execution group on the prison grounds, a decision prompted by a television newscast. "My

husband and I decided we had to join them and add to their support. I felt I needed to do this. I had to do this for the 168 people who died in Oklahoma."

Brown said their children—two of whom are in school and two of whom are adults—told her they were concerned that someone might retaliate against their mom and dad for joining those who support McVeigh's death.

"Our kids are worried, but we're OK," she said. "We've never done anything like this before, but we had to do it."

Meanwhile, Soble began negotiations to lead a Circle of Silence Prayer on the prison grounds.

Those who participated went to pray for 163 minutes before McVeigh was put to sleep, she said. Then, after the prison warden announced his death, the group was to pray another minute for McVeigh.

"The American people view execution as a political issue and lose sight of the fact that it is a moral issue," Soble said. "Executions are wrong. It is a moral issue. Jesus was executed."

As dawn broke Monday, each group prayed for different reasons.

Executed: 'It would be a lie to say that we did not double their pain'

► Continued from Page 1

"He was expressionless ... It almost looked like he stopped breathing after the first drug was administered," Graden said.

When Graden walked into the execution chamber, the curtain was closed. When it was opened soon after, McVeigh already lay on the gurney, restrained, with an intravenous tube attached.

Still, he raised his head slightly to look each witness in the eye—each except those representing the Oklahoma City bombing victims and survivors, whom he could not see.

McVeigh's skin was pale, his lips were tight and it appeared he had lost weight, witnesses said.

"He did not have the same look of arrogance as he had in the courtroom in Denver," said Linda Cavanaugh, a reporter for KFOR-TV, Oklahoma City.

Kevin Johnson, USA Today criminal justice reporter, said McVeigh's eyes became increasingly glassy, almost watery, as he lay on the gurney.

Susan Carlson, of WIS Chicago Radio, said the most chilling part was when he took time to "look up and look each of the us in the eye."

"He seemed very resigned to his fate," she added.

Carlson said later, "He almost was proud of what had happened," that this was all part of his plan.

McVeigh did not make a final spoken statement, but media witnesses received copies of his final written statement, the poem "Invictus," written by William Ernest Henley.

Robert Nigh, one of McVeigh's attorneys, squinted into the sun as he spoke soon after the execution, saddened by the event.

"We killed Bill and Mickey's son this morning, and we killed Jennifer's brother," Nigh said at 8:30, as he talked for about five minutes. "It would be a lie to say that we did not double their pain."

Nigh was remorseful that he couldn't get McVeigh to finally show remorse. Still, he was upset that the movement for a moratorium on federal executions did not come soon enough for his client.

"We have made killing a part of the healing process," Nigh said.

McVeigh took his last glimpse of moonlight sky about 4:10 a.m. Sunday, when Bureau of Prison officials transported him from the Special Confinement Unit to the execution holding cell.

McVeigh spent his last day in a 9-by-14 foot cell, a short walk from the execution chamber. Prison officials said the decorated Gulf War veteran spent Sunday writing letters, sleeping, watching TV and meeting with attorneys Hugh and Nathan Chambers, both of whom witnessed their client's lethal injection.

He was served his final requested meal at noon Sunday, eating two pints of mint-chocolate chip ice cream. He was allowed to eat standard prison fare before his execution, if he wished.

Less than 24 hours from death at the hands of the government he despises, McVeigh's mood was upbeat, his attorneys said.

McVeigh was convicted in 1997 of April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people, including eight federal agents and 19 children.

He was the first federal prisoner to be executed in 38 years.

While the intricate and well-placed plans for his 7 a.m. execution unfolded, those close to the Oklahoma City bomber said he continued to believe the 1995 blast that killed 168 people was a military action brought on by an overreaching federal government.

His attorneys said he is sorry for those who suffered, but doesn't regret blowing up the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. In Oklahoma City, about 500 survivors and victims' relatives prepared to watch a closed-circuit feed of the execution to be sent from Terre Haute in a feed encrypted to guard against interception.

Protesters began gathering at area parks Sunday night and were transported via prison buses to separated areas on prison grounds.

"I feel a great sadness for Tim McVeigh and his family and all of us," said Bonnie Johnson of Franklin. "We have been unwilling participants in this horrible execution. Killing McVeigh only serves to perpetuate the cycle of violence."

As she cried after the execution, Amy



Heated words: The Rev. Fred Smith (left) of Atlanta is confronted by Father Peter Dougherty of Lansing, Mich., after Smith began preaching during a moment of silence this morning at the federal penitentiary.

Tribune Star/ Joseph C. Garza

Robertson of Salina, Kan., sat away from everyone else, hugging her knees.

"Those who set forth this execution I pity them ... because they brought greater harm upon themselves as well as this nation. I believe love, forgiveness and truth would have brought healing to all families throughout this nation. That was not what was demonstrated here today."

Death penalty supporters Phil Banks, and daughter Kelly from Sullivan, Ill., were introspective, were sitting together through the whole thing.

"We've been talking through his last thoughts, trying to imagine whether he would be remorseful or frightened or what he thinks of the afterlife," Phil Banks said.

Nathan Paoletta, from Terre Haute, also supports the death penalty, he said today, but was thinking more about the victims than morning.

"I'm here to support the death penalty and to support the families of the 168 people," Paoletta said.

McVeigh remained defiant until the end.

In excerpts from letters to The Buffalo News released Saturday, McVeigh insisted the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building was necessary to send a message to what he called an out-of-control government.

"I am sorry these people had to lose their lives," McVeigh wrote his hometown newspaper. "But that's the nature of the beast. Its understood going in what the human toll will be."

Only about 40 supporters had arrived by 2:30 a.m.

Prison officials expected more protesters to arrive closer to 4 a.m., said Cully, the Bureau of Prison spokeswoman. A Circle of Silence Witness was scheduled for 4:12 a.m. Those participating in the circle would observe 168 minutes of silence in memory of those who died in Oklahoma City.

Mark Coffman of Minnesota, Calif., drove to Terre Haute to support the death penalty after visiting Oklahoma City this weekend.

"This is a very unplanned side trip," he said, adding that he felt compassion for the victims of the bombings. There were people who were completely honest at random

by someone who really didn't care, he said.

McVeigh should die for his crimes because letting him live would only prolong the pain for the victims, Coffman said.

Jim Friedrich of Hamilton, Ohio, said the law requires that McVeigh pay for his crime.

The law of the United States of America says if you murder someone—capital murder—then you must pay with your life. It is the law," he said.

Despite the differences of opinion, everything remained peaceful, which is what Cher Farrell of Kalamazoo, Mich., wanted.

A member of the Michigan Peace Union, her group objected to

He referred to the April 19, 1995, bombing as a "kept fact" in his war against the government.

Victims and others had reacted themselves for McVeigh's execution nearly a month ago, when the Federal Bureau of Investigation revealed that more than 4,000 pages of documents in the bombing investigation had been accidentally been kept from McVeigh's defense attorneys.

All pertinent documents were supposed to be shared with the defense during McVeigh's trial. U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft postponed McVeigh's May 16 execution date to give the defense time to review the documents.

McVeigh's attorneys filed for a stay of execution to give them adequate time to review the documents. They argued that material the FBI turned over only six days before McVeigh's first execution date might have been used to sway the jury to hand McVeigh—America's worst home-grown terrorist—a sentence of life in prison.

But U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch denied McVeigh a further stay on Wednesday, saying the new documents didn't change that McVeigh was the "instrument of death and destruction" in the bombing.

His attorneys appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals (10th Circuit), where a three-judge panel upheld Matsch's ruling, saying that "McVeigh has utterly failed to demonstrate substantial grounds upon which relief might be granted."

McVeigh decided Thursday not to seek a further appeal to the U.S. Supreme

Court or to seek clemency from President Bush.

McVeigh had delivered a 2,000-pound fuel and fertilizer truck bomb outside the federal building shortly before 9 a.m. on April 19, 1995.

He was arrested a little more than an hour later on gun- and weapon-related charges north of Oklahoma City.

The next day, he was transported from Federal Bureau of Investigation slushes as the man wanted in connection with the bombing.

A Gulf War veteran, McVeigh has said in interviews since his conviction that he bombed the building to avenge wrongs committed by the government in incidents at Ruby Ridge and the Branch Davidians Compound in Waco.

The Murrah building has since been demolished. Now, a national memorial center and the Oklahoma City National Memorial for the Preservation of Terrorism stand in its place.

McVeigh's execution was difficult to carry out, Lappin said after the execution today.

"I anticipated this to be a very difficult thing to do, and it was, but I think today my thoughts and prayers are with the many victims of this tragedy in Oklahoma City," Lappin said.

Tribune Star reporters Matt Miller, Zach Taylor and Peter Cianciarone contributed to this report.

Hours: 'If this were a rally for the abortion issue, there would be 100,000 people here'

► Continued from Page 1

"I'm sure McVeigh's activities for the past few days have been sleeping normally, watching television, talking with his attorneys and meeting with the warden and institution staff," Dunn said.

Prison police selection for who would witness McVeigh's lethal injection at 7 a.m. today started at 4 a.m. today about 80 media representatives showed up, but the execution outside the training center.

After the briefing, media scattered to broadcast vans, trailers and protest areas in anticipation of the first broadcast at midnight.

Against the evening glow of prison lights, gold curtains dangled

between prison and media areas. The anti-death penalty and death penalty supporter areas were separated by about 400 yards, making self-censorship the preferred transportation for the media.

Buses ran back and forth between Fairbanks and Voorhees parks, where protesters were headquartered. Each bus was accompanied by police officers at the front and back. Once off the bus at the prison, protesters walked down as

able to get to the protest area.

Around 1 a.m., about 40 anti-death penalty protesters had arrived, among them Ron Rowe, a Roman Catholic deacon from Bar

top, Mich., who drove to Terre

Haute by himself after mass on Sunday to quietly protest the execution. He was somewhat disappointed by the low turnout.

"If this were a rally for the abortion issue, there would be 100,000 people here. If it was to raise money for the poor or raise money for the homeless, this is about what you'd get," he said, noting to the protesters, whose number increased to around 100 around 3 a.m.

The death penalty is another situation where it seems nobody cares. Rowe said, his eyes welling up with tears.

Participation among the death penalty supporters was even lower.

Only about 40 supporters had arrived by 2:30 a.m.

Prison officials expected more protesters to arrive closer to 4 a.m., said Cully, the Bureau of Prison spokeswoman. A Circle of Silence Witness was scheduled for 4:12 a.m. Those participating in the circle would observe 168 minutes of silence in memory of those who died in Oklahoma City.

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Despite the differences of opinion, everything remained peaceful, which is what Cher Farrell of Kalamazoo, Mich., wanted.

A member of the Michigan Peace Union, her group objected to

to help create an atmosphere of calmness and peace during protests and rallies.

"We don't take either side. We are neutral. We are impartial," she said.

She did admit that being on the grounds of the federal prison where America's most notorious criminal lived was weird.

"It's chilling to be here, I have to admit, on the grounds of something of this magnitude," Farrell said. "Not just what's happening here, but you think of the other people who are in prison."

"This guy..."

THE EXECUTION OF TIMOTHY McVEIGH

Decker residents react differently to execution day

For some, it's just another day

Associated Press • Denver, Mich.

As Timothy McVeigh was executed, a friend from this farming town kept vigil near the prison while the brother of a man also convicted in the bombing didn't plan to pay attention.

McVeigh, who was convicted of plotting the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and causing the deaths of 168 people, was killed by lethal injection Monday at a federal prison in Terre Haute, said prison warden Harley Lappin.

McVeigh once spent time in the small Seneca County community of Decker. Days after the bombing, federal officials raided the farm of James Nichols for evidence.

"If the radio's working, I might turn it on. But otherwise, it's just like any other morning," James Nichols, brother of Terry Nichols, who was convicted on federal charges of conspiracy, said Monday.

James Nichols said Monday would pass like any other day at his farm.

"I'll be out here, working, same as always. What else am I going to do? If the radio's working, I might turn it on. But otherwise, it's just like any other morning," he told The Detroit News. He maintains that McVeigh is innocent.

"We very often get a lot of no one in this country can get a fair trial," he told WJW-TV of Detroit.

Down the road from the Nichols farm, Bob Papovich sat in his living room last week and flipped one of the last letters from his friend, Tim McVeigh. It was a thick package, with a book and a letter inside.

He showed the book, written by one of McVeigh's former attorneys, but withheld the handwritten letter. McVeigh, he said, was embarrassed by his poor penmanship and spelling, and had asked him to destroy some of the letters and keep others to himself.

"Good, I hope he doesn't die. This is almost like losing one of your kids," said Papovich, who co-authored a book with James Nichols, arguing McVeigh's cause, and was keeping a vigil in Indiana on Monday.

Although McVeigh has expressed no remorse, Papovich told NBC's "Today" show on Monday that his friend was sorry about the children who died in the bombing.

"He had no idea there was a day care center in that building. Tim thought this was a government command center. ... What he did was an act of war," Papovich said. McVeigh was motivated by deaths in Waco, Texas, and at Ruby Ridge, he said.

About six miles from the Nichols farm, farmer and farm equipment salesman Dwight McKenney of Spencer said he was busy with planting to worry about much other than his own work.

"We are considering shutting down our satellite for the summer," McKenney told The Detroit Free Press. "We don't have time for television."

McKenney said he is not fan of the federal government, either, saying he is concerned it might interfere with his right to own guns.

"We hunt around here," he said. "We don't want anyone taking them away from us."

Stephanie Peters, 12, of Dartmouth near Flint said she has discussed the execution in school and supports death for McVeigh.

"I think he deserves it," Stephanie told The Flint Journal.

Supreme Court turns down request to tape McVeigh execution

By ANNE GEARAN
Associated Press • Washington

A man who claims that federal execution by lethal injection is unconstitutional lost his Supreme Court appeal to have Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh's death videotaped.

The court turned down the taping request without comment Sunday, hours before McVeigh's scheduled execution Monday at a federal prison in Terre Haute, Ind.

The appeal went first to Justice David Souter, who has jurisdiction for matters from Pennsylvania, where a federal appeals court had denied the same request.

Souter referred the matter to the full Supreme Court, spokeswoman Kathy Arberg said.

It takes five votes to grant such a last-minute request, but the court did not say how individual justices voted. The action had no bearing on McVeigh's case.

In their weekend appeal to the court, lawyers for Joseph Minard said the taping could be done unobtrusively, and the footage would not be released to the public.

But the Justice Department said taping the execution risks compromising it and posed security and privacy problems as well.

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Remembering the victims: Members of the group from the Oklahoma City National Memorial gathered in the west gate of the Oklahoma City National Memorial in downtown Oklahoma City Monday morning. The group planned to stand in silence for 168 minutes, one minute for each victim killed in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Word of execution reaches mourners who gathered at Oklahoma City National Memorial

By KELLY KUNT
Associated Press
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Survivors and family members took police in the death of Timothy McVeigh on Monday, six years after he bombed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, killing 168 people.

James Smith, whose 46-year-old brother Larry Scroggins died in the bombing, prayed with his children at the Oklahoma City National Memorial, then left after getting word that McVeigh was dead at 7:14 a.m.

"It's over," she said. "We don't have to continue with him any more."

Earlier, a silent vigil began without fanfare — 168 minutes, one minute for each victim killed in the April 19, 1995.

Lynne Gist, whose 32-year-old sister Karen Gist Carr died in the bombing, broke into sobs as she knelt at the memorial. She chose not to attend the closed circuit

broadcast held elsewhere in the city.

"I didn't want to see it happen," Gist said. "I wanted to know it was done."

The secure closed-circuit television broadcast of the execution was shown to about 300 survivors and family members.

Buses escorted by police cars then took them to the Federal Transfer Center, where a wide screen television was set up.

"It is definitely time for Mr. McVeigh to go," said Martha Ridley, who lost her 24-year-old daughter, Kathy, in the bombing.

"And the only thing I'm going to say after that is 'Good, I'm glad he's gone.'"

"This is closure of Chapter 1 and beginning of Chapter 2, which is Terry Nichols," she said as she waited to attend the closed-circuit broadcast. "The pain never goes away. You can hide it, you can cover it up, but it never goes away."

Nichols was convicted on federal

charges of involuntary manslaughter and conspiracy. Prosecutors plan to try him in state court and seek the death penalty.

At St. Joseph's Catholic Church, about two dozen people stood before the "Jesus Wept" statue Monday morning, with hands clasped in front of them.

Some bowed their heads in prayer and others held up large green banners that read "Remembering the Victims of Violence" and "Restorative Justice Heals."

The Rev. Melodee Smith of the Miami-based anti-death penalty group, Restorative Justice Center for Capital Cases, said she was there to "express an alternative to an execution that is being carried out in our name."

"This is closure of Chapter 1 and beginning of Chapter 2," she said. "I personally can guarantee that McVeigh cannot kill another man, woman or child."

Fifty-three who didn't lose loved ones haven't forgotten how McVeigh's bomb shook this city.

He packed his rage against the government inside a Ryder truck. He lit the fuse on his ammonium nitrate bomb, parked the truck outside the glass-fronted Murrah building and made his escape, leaving Oklahoma City to deal with the horror of its destruction.

Nineteen children in the building's day care center were among the 168 people killed when the bomb shattered the floor on its nine floors.

FEDERAL CRIMES PUNISHABLE BY DEATH

■ Murder related to the smuggling of aliens.

■ Destruction of aircraft, motor vehicles or related facilities resulting in death.

■ Murder committed during a drug-related, drive-by shooting.

■ Murder committed at an airport serving international civil aviation.

■ Retaliatory murder of a member of the immediate family of law enforcement officials.

■ Civil rights offenses resulting in death.

■ Murder of a member of Congress, an important executive official or a Supreme Court Justice.

■ Death resulting from offenses involving transportation of explosives, destruction of government property or destruction of property related to foreign or interstate commerce.

■ Murder committed with a firearm during a crime of violence or a drug trafficking crime.

■ Murder committed in a federal government facility.

■ Genocide.

■ First-degree murder.

■ Murder of a federal judge or law-enforcement official.

■ Murder of a foreign official.

■ Murder by a federal prisoner.

■ Murder of a U.S. national in a foreign country.

■ Murder by an escaped federal prisoner already sentenced to life imprisonment.

■ Murder of a state or local law enforcement official or other person aiding in a federal investigation; murder of a state correctional officer.

■ Murder during a kidnapping.

■ Murder during a hostage-taking.

■ Murder of a court officer or juror.

■ Murder with the intent of preventing testimony by a witness, victim or informant.

■ Retaliatory murder of a witness, victim or informant.

■ Mailing of injurious articles with intent to kill or resulting in death.

■ Assassination or kidnapping resulting in the death of the president or vice president.

■ Murder for hire.

■ Murder involved in a racketeering offense.

■ Willful wrecking of a train resulting in death.

■ Bank-robbery-related murder or kidnapping.

■ Murder related to a car-jacking.

■ Murder related to rape or child molestation.

■ Murder related to sexual exploitation of children.

■ Murder committed during an offense against maritime navigation.

■ Murder committed during an offense against a maritime fixed platform.

■ Terrorist murder of a U.S. national in another country.

■ Murder by the use of a weapon of mass destruction.

■ Murder involving torture.

■ Murder related to a continuing criminal enterprise or related murder of a federal, state or local law enforcement officer.

■ Death resulting from aircraft hijacking.

■ Espionage.

■ Treason.

■ Trafficking in large quantities of drugs.

■ Attempting, authorizing or advising the killing of any officer, juror or witness in cases involving a continuing criminal enterprise, regardless of whether such killing actually occurs.

Source: Death Penalty Information Center

— Associated Press

Federal executions

Timothy McVeigh was the 341st person put to death by the U.S. government. Statistics on federal executions.

Looking back

Since 1790, 357 men and four women have been executed under the federal death penalty.

Number of executions:



© 2001 NYT
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Prisons, Death Penalty Information Center
RESEARCH: PAT CAPRI, GRAPHIC: LEE HALLING

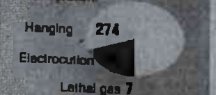
By race

McVeigh was the 135th white person to be executed.



By method

McVeigh was the first to die by lethal injection.



THE EXECUTION OF TIMOTHY McVEIGH

Priscilla Salyers has moved on from fateful day

OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING VICTIMS

Rebecca Needham Anderson, 31, Midwest City
Anita Christine Hight, 26, Tulsa
Kathryn Elizabeth Ridley, 24, Oklahoma City
Robert N. Chipman, 51, Edmond
Trudy Jean Bagney, 31, Midwest City
Shelly D. Bland, 25, Tulsa
Carol June "Chip" Fields, 44, Guthrie
Roni Linn Kuehner-Chaley, 35, Oklahoma City
Carnie Ann Lenz, 26, of Chotaw and baby Michael James Lenz III
Kenneth Glenn McCullough, 36, Edmond
Cynthia L. Brown, 26, Oklahoma City
Donald Ray Leonard, 58, Edmond
Mickey B. Maroney, 50, Oklahoma City
Linda G. McKinney, 47, Oklahoma City
Kathy Lynn Seidt, 39, Bethel
Alan G. Whichev, 40, Edmond
Ted L. Allen, 40, Norman
Peter R. Allmaraz, 36, Oklahoma City
David Neil Burkett, 47, Oklahoma City
Donald Earl Burris, Sr., 63, Oklahoma City
Kimberly Kay Clark, 39, Oklahoma City
Susan Jane Ferrell, 37, Oklahoma City
Dr. George Michael Howard, D.V.M., 45, Valley, Calif.
Antonio "Tony" C. Reyes, 55, Edmond
Larry Lee David Scroggins, 46, Yukon
Leona Lee Selk, 57, Oklahoma City
Julius A. Valdez, 51, Edmond
David Jack Walker, 44, Edmond
Michael D. Weaver, 54, Edmond
Francis "Fran" Ann Williams, 48, Oklahoma City
Clarence Eugene Wilson, Sr., 49, Oklahoma City
Dane E. (Hollingsworth) Althouse, 45, Edmond
Andrea Yvette Blanton, 33, Oklahoma City
Kim R. Cousins, 33, Midwest City
Diana Lynne Day, 38, Oklahoma City
Candice Brooks Hearn Deveroux, 45, Oklahoma City
Judy I. (Froh) Fisher, 45, Oklahoma City
Linda Louise Florence, 43, Oklahoma City
I. Colleen Gales, 59, Oklahoma City
Thompson Eugene "Gene" Hodges, Jr., 54, Norman
Ann Krenyberg, 37, Oklahoma City
Teresa Lea Taylor Lauderdale, 41, Shawnee
Mary Leasure-Bentley, 39, Bethany
James A. McCarthy II, 53, Edmond
Betsy J. (Beebe) McGonnell, 47, Norman
Patricia Ann Nix, 47, Edmond
Terry Smith Rees, 41, Midwest City
John Thomas Stewart, 51, Oklahoma City
John Karl Van Ess III, 67, Chickasha
Jo Ann Whitenberg, 35, Oklahoma City
Sgt. Benjamin Lizarazo Davis, USMC, 28, Edmond
Capt. Randolph A. Guzman, USMC, 28, Castro Valley, Calif.
Olen Burl Bloomer, 61, Moore
James E. Bolek, 50, Oklahoma City
Dr. Margaret L. "Peggy" Clark, 42, Chickasha
Richard (Dick) Cummins, 55, Mustang
Doris "Adele" Higginbottom, 44, Oklahoma City
Carole Sue Khalil, 50, Oklahoma City
Rheta Bender Long, 60, Oklahoma City
Paul Gregory Swartz Broderman, 42, Edmond
Paul D. Jot, 42, Midwest City
Claude Arthur Medeiros, S.S.A., 41, Norman
Lucio Alaman, Jr., 33, Oklahoma City
Mark Allen Bolte, 28, Oklahoma City
Michael Camille, 44, Oklahoma City

By HOWARD GREENGLASS
Tribune-Star

A sonic boom reverberates through Priscilla Salyers' mind. The noise was familiar to her while living on a rural air station near Dallas as a young girl.

Salyers thought she heard that unmistakable bang once again in Oklahoma City on the morning of April 19, 1995.

Just hours before, fellow U.S. Customs agent Paul Lee had leaned over her desk on the fifth floor of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building to ask her a question.

"It was a very loud noise, Paul and I looked eyes, but there was not enough time to think" about what had happened, Salyers said. "His eyes were the last thing I saw."

In that moment, Salyers was plunged into the chaos that led to the destruction of the Oklahoma City bombing.

For the next 4 1/2 hours, Salyers would lay face down, surrounded by mangled metal, insulation and concrete. It was silent. The rubble muffled the sound of sirens and fire trucks.

"I never knew I felt. It was almost like somebody was pushing me back, trying to push me down. I kept fighting it, trying to sit up. I actually thought I was sitting at my desk... that the wheel [chairs] had fallen on top of me," she said.

She was focused in what was to be called the "hot" area of the building, near the American Kid's day care center, where more than a dozen children died.

"Before they found me, I heard someone say this is the child care center; we have a lot of children in here. I heard someone respond saying, 'We know. We are trying to get you out,'" Salyers said. "It was now, at 50, Salyers said her life



Caption: Attorney General John Ashcroft talks to Priscilla Salyers and Doris Jones as they toured the Oklahoma City National Memorial Site in April. Salyers will watch the execution on closed-circuit television.

on making sense, because they are on the second floor and I am on the fifth."

She didn't realize the upper floors had collapsed. Salyers tried to dig herself out of the debris, but she couldn't get free.

At one point, she felt what she thought was a rock pressing against her stomach. "When I pushed underneath me to pull this rock out, I realized it was a hand," she said.

"I do not know if it was my co-worker, because, even told there were about seven people under me who were dead," Salyers said. "I knew the hand was not responding. I guess shock and everything. I won't even think about that person being dead. It never even occurred to me."

Salyers, then 44, suffered a broken leg and punctured lung. She spent five days in a hospital but has no physical scars.

Now, at 50, Salyers said her life

has moved forward from that fateful day. She works as an inventory specialist for the U.S. Secret Service.

Her story became a movie, "Oklahoma City: A Survivor's Story," which first aired on the Lifetime network in 1998.

The man convicted of the bombing, Timothy McVeigh, has claimed he never went inside the Murrah Building. But Salyers said she sees sure she met McVeigh shortly before Christmas in 1994.

A man who looked like McVeigh came into her office and asked for a job, she said. "I stepped into the extracurricular, handed it to him and he walked out. It was just for a little while," she said.

"It was just the facial features and mannerisms, the body language, the way he moved. It never came out as evidence," Salyers said, because she did not have exact dates and times of when the

man came into the office. Salyers said she supports the death penalty and will watch McVeigh's execution via closed-circuit TV in Oklahoma.

"I feel that there are going to be some people who will feel a sense of healing once he is dead," Salyers said.

"I believe I might feel a sense of relief for those 168 children that are empty, justice will be served for those people who died," she said.

Salyers, along with her husband, Ray, have raised two sons, James, 26, and Louis, 31.

"I brought my boys up to know that you are allowed to make choices, but you pay the consequences of your choices," Salyers said. "I feel Tim McVeigh is paying the consequence."

Denny children are miracles in father's eyes

By SUE LOUGHLIN
Tribune-Star

Jim Denny tells his children they are miracles because it truly was a miracle that Brandon and Rebecca Denny, then ages 3 and 2, survived the Oklahoma City bombing.

Nineteen other children, most of them in the same second floor day care at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, were killed. The bomber, Timothy McVeigh, called them "collateral damage" in his personal war against the federal government.

On the day of the bombing, Jim's wife, Claudia, was working just four blocks south of the Murrah building at the Internal Revenue Service. Jim Denny worked for a company that manufactures oil well drilling tools five miles away.

"I was at work sitting in the shop, at my desk. I had overhead smoke and debris in the air. The bomber shot at my desk at 9:02 a.m.," Jim Denny recalled. Originally from California, he thought it was an earthquake.

Then he saw on television that some kind of explosion had occurred downtown. He wasn't sure if it was the federal building or the courthouse. "I didn't think right away that it was a bomb," he said.

Within minutes, his wife, Claudia, called. "She said, 'Get down here right now. A bomb went off at the federal building,'" he recalled.

As soon as he got on the interstate, he could see billowing smoke and debris in the air. He parked about four blocks from the Murrah building and walked to the scene. Four blocks away, people were bleeding a little from the streets, injured.

Finally, he arrived at what was left of the federal building. "When I looked at the day care, it was gone," he said.

Only six children survived the blast, and two of them were theirs. "It's unbelievable," Jim Denny said. "I've never asked why. I just accepted it... It breaks my heart to think about the other children

"They are doing great. They love each other to death and take care of each other."

Jim Denny, speaking of his two children, Brandon and Rebecca Denny

The scene was one of chaos — sirens, helicopters, screaming smoke. Even the smell was different, something he hadn't experienced before. "It smelled like death," he said.

The explosion occurred on the north side of the building, which was gutted. He then went to the south side, which was still standing. He found Claudia there. She hadn't yet seen the other side of the building.

Initially, they thought there was no way their children could have survived. "We made a pact. We would move ahead with our lives and we were in it together, no matter what happened," he said.

They went to an American Red Cross site, where there was a special room for day care parents.

Eventually, a volunteer heard a television report about a 2-year-old girl with red hair, blue eyes and fair skin who was in surgery at Southwest Medical Center. That's how the Denny family found Rebecca.

A doctor at the hospital told them "she looked horrible, but the injuries were not critical," Jim Denny said.

Then someone saw a television report about a 3- or 4-year-old boy with strawberry blond hair in surgery at a different hospital. The boy could not be identified.

Soon, the Denny family was on their way to Presbyterian Hospital. Miraculously, the little boy, who had just finished surgery and was on life support, was Brandon.

Only six children survived the blast, and two of them were theirs. "It's unbelievable," Jim Denny said. "I've never asked why. I just accepted it... It breaks my heart to think about the other children

and adults" who didn't survive. In all, 168 people were killed.

The bombing had occurred at 9:02 a.m. Jim and Claudia Denny didn't know their daughter until about 1:30 a.m. It was sometime about 4 p.m. before they found Brandon.

The children were probably less than 60 feet away when the truck bomb exploded in a drop off zone just outside the day care, Denny said.

The force of the explosion blew the Denny children to the opposite side of the building — which saved their lives, even though they were covered with debris.

Brandon suffered severe head injuries and spent several months in hospital. Rebecca "was blasted over the entire left side of her body — from the top of her head to the bottom of her feet," Jim Denny said. "They know who Tim McVeigh is and we explained how evil he is. We told them that there are a few evil people, but there are millions and millions of wonderful people in this world."

"Our children don't think they are special. They are not scared and neither are we," he said. "It's important for people to know that goodness will always outlive evil."

The Denny family has been able to go on with their lives and remain positive. "From the time it happened, we've never had any regrets so that has moved us ahead in life," said Jim Denny, a devout Catholic.

Tim McVeigh "is not going to get the best of our family. I think he should know that. I think he does know it," said Jim Denny, now a motivational speaker who has encouraged plans to run for governor of Oklahoma on the Republican ticket.

He doesn't plan to watch the execution but supports the death penalty and believes it fits the crime in this case. "Some people are for it because of revenge, and some are for it because it is justice," he said. "I really believe justice will be served."

A pediatric rehabilitation center in Dallas.

Brandon, too, has made a remarkable recovery, although he still goes for physical and speech therapy twice a week. "He can't get along with his right hand now. We're working on it," Jim Denny said. "When he walks, his gait is not 100 percent." He also has some problems with reading comprehension, he said.

Still, Jim Denny said, his son "has the greatest attitude in the world. He wakes up with a smile and goes to bed with a smile."

Both children are in the same second grade class of a Catholic school. "They are doing great. They love each other to death and take care of each other," he said.

The children remember the bombing. "We are very honest," Jim Denny said. "They know who Tim McVeigh is and we explained how evil he is. We told them that there are a few evil people, but there are millions and millions of wonderful people in this world."

"Our children don't think they are special. They are not scared and neither are we," he said. "It's important for people to know that goodness will always outlive evil."

The Denny family has been able to go on with their lives and remain positive. "From the time it happened, we've never had any regrets so that has moved us ahead in life," said Jim Denny, a devout Catholic.

Tim McVeigh "is not going to get the best of our family. I think he should know that. I think he does know it," said Jim Denny, now a motivational speaker who has encouraged plans to run for governor of Oklahoma on the Republican ticket.

He doesn't plan to watch the execution but supports the death penalty and believes it fits the crime in this case. "Some people are for it because of revenge, and some are for it because it is justice," he said. "I really believe justice will be served."

OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING VICTIMS

Larry James Jones, 46, Yukon
James K. Martin, 34, Oklahoma City
Roneta Ann Newberry-Woodbridge, 51, Edmond
Jerry Lee Parker, 45, Norman
Michelle A. Reeder, 33, Oklahoma City
Rick L. Tomlin, 46, Piedmont
Johnny Allen Wade, 42, Edmond
John A. Youngblood, 32, Yukon
Sgt. 1st Class Lela Bolden, U.S. Army, 40, Birmingham, Ala.
Karen Gist Carr, 32, Midwest City
Peggy Louise Holland, 37, Oklahoma City
John C. Moss III, 50, Oklahoma City
Victoria (Vickey) L. Sohn, 36, Moore
Dolores (Dee) Stratton, 51, Moore
Kayla Marie Titworth, 31, Lawton
Wanda Lee Watkins, 45, Oklahoma City
Harley Richard Cottingham, 46, Oklahoma City
Peter L. DeMaster, 44, Oklahoma City
Norma "Jean" Johnson, 62, Oklahoma City
Larry L. Turner, 42, Oklahoma City
Robert G. Westberry, 57, Oklahoma City
Woodward Clifford "Woody" Brady, 41, Oklahoma City
Kimberly Ruth Burgess, 29, Oklahoma City
Kathy A. Finley, 44, Yukon
Jamie (Falkowski) Genzer, 32, Wellston
Sheila R. Gigger-Driver, 28, Oklahoma City and baby Gregory N. Driver II
Linda Coleen Housley, 53, Oklahoma City
Robin Ann Huff, 37, Bethany and baby Amber Denise Huff
Christi Yvonne Jenkins, 32, Edmond
Alvin J. Justus, 54, Oklahoma City
Valerie Jo Koelsch, 33, Oklahoma City
Kathy Cagle Leinen, 47, Oklahoma City
Claudette (Duke) Meek, 43, Oklahoma City
Frankie Ann Merrill, 23, Oklahoma City
Jill Diane Randolph, 27, Oklahoma City
Claudine Ritter, 48, Oklahoma City
Christy Rosas, 22, Moore
Sonja Lynn Sanders, 27, Moore
Karan Howell Shepherd, 27, Moore
Victoria Jeanette Tester, 37, Oklahoma City
Virginia M. Thompson, 56, El Reno
Tresia Jo "Mathes" Worton, 28, Oklahoma City
Miss Baylee Almon, 1, Oklahoma City
Danielle Nicole Bell, 15 months, Oklahoma City
Zachary Taylor Chavez, 3, Oklahoma City
Dana LeAnne Cooper, 24, Moore
Anthony Christopher Cooper II, 2, Moore
Antonio Ansara Cooper, Jr., 6 months, Midwest City
Aaron M. Coverdale, 51, Oklahoma City
Elijah S. Coverdale, 21, Oklahoma City
Jac Rae Coyne, 14 months, Moore
Brenda Faye Davies, 42, Oklahoma City
Taylor Santoi Eaves, 8 months, Midwest City
Tevin D'Andre Garrett, 16 months, Midwest City
Kevin "Lee" Gottshall II, 6 months, Norman
Wanda Lee Howell, 34, Spencer
Blake Ryan Kennedy, 1 1/2, Amber
Dominique Ravas (Johnson)-London, 2, Ravas
Chase Dalton Smith, 1, Oklahoma City
Colton Wade Smith, 2, Oklahoma City
Scott D. Williams, 24, Tuttle
Teresa Antoinette Alexander, 33, Oklahoma City
Richard A. Allen, 46, Oklahoma City
Pamela Cleveland Argo, 36, Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY
BOMBING VICTIMS

Calvin Battle, 62, Oklahoma City
Peola Battle, 56, Oklahoma City
Oleta C. Biddy, 54, Tuttle
Cassandra Kay Booker, 25, Oklahoma City
Carol Louise Bowers, 53, Yukon
Peachlyn Bradley, 3, Oklahoma City
Gabriel D.L. Bruce, 3 months, Oklahoma City
Katherine Louise Cregan, 60, Oklahoma City
Ashley Megan Eccles, 4, Guthrie
Don Fritzer, 64, Oklahoma City
Mary Anne Fritzer, 57, Oklahoma City
Laura Jane Garrison, 61, Oklahoma City
Margaret Betterton Goodson, 54, Oklahoma City
Ethel L. Griffin, 55, Edmond
Cheryl E. Harmon, 44, Oklahoma City
Donald Vernon Harding Sr., 55, Oklahoma City
Thomas Lynn Hawthorne Sr., 52, Oklahoma City
Dr. Charles E. Hurlburt, 73, Oklahoma City
Jean Nutting Hurlburt, 67, Oklahoma City
Raymond "Lee" Johnson, 59, Oklahoma City
LaKeshia Richardson Levy, 21, Midwest City
Aurelia Donna Luster, 43, Guthrie
Robert Lee Luster Jr., 45, Guthrie
Rev. Gilbert X. Martinez, 33, Oklahoma City
Courtney J. McLean, 19, Midwest City
Derwin W. Miller, 27, Oklahoma City
Eula Leigh Mitchell, 64, Oklahoma City
Emilio Tapia, 50, Oklahoma City
Charlotte Andrea Lewis Thomas, 43, Oklahoma City
Michael George Thompson, 47, Yukon
Lafayette A. Treanor, 55, Guthrie
Luther H. Treanor, 61, Guthrie
Robert N. Walker Jr., 52, Oklahoma City
Julie Marie Welch, 23, Oklahoma City
W. Stephen Williams, 42, Cashion
Sharon Louise Wood-Chesnut, 47, Oklahoma City
Steven Douglas Curry, 44, Norman
Michael L. Loudenslager, 48, Harra

Oklahoma City victim Patty Hall left with daily reminders of explosion

BY PATRICIA L. PASTORE
THE OKLAHOMA STAR

Splinters of glass work out of her flesh. She fears tall buildings. She can't stand to be enclosed in small spaces. Aches and pains tear through her body every day. Yet life is precious to Oklahoma City bombing survivor Patty Hall.

"Whatever I lost I've gained back triple through my spiritual walk with Jesus," Hall said. "I'm so grateful to greet each day."

Hall was on the third floor of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building when Timothy McVeigh detonated a truck bomb outside the building on April 19, 1995, killing 168 people.

"I only remember that I had a can of air freshener in my hand to spray the hallway. When I put my finger on the nozzle of the spray, the bomb exploded," Hall said.

"As the building collapsed

from the power of the homemade bomb, Hall fell two stories and wound up trapped beneath tons of rubble.

Black smoke and small particles of debris continued to rain down on her after the blast. The polluted air she breathed damaged her lungs. She was encircled by the dead and dying. Hall said she could hear rescuers nearby, but she could not scream out for help because of her injuries. She does not remember how long she was trapped before she finally was freed.

The unexpected act of terrorism six years ago shocked the

nation and stunned Oklahoma City residents. News of the incident was broadcast over radio and television within minutes after the bomb exploded.

Hall's mother, Leota Perkins and her friend of 40 years, Mary Johnson, walked together for news of survivors.

"I headed for Patty's mother's house when I heard what happened," Johnson said. "I know where her (Patty's) office was and didn't see how she could survive it."

About three hours after the explosion, Perkins received a phone call from a local hospital. "They told us Patty was alive," Johnson said. "We just got up and went there."

Hall suffered 40 broken or crushed bones, from her ankles to her legs, pelvis and ribs. She had a punctured lung and dozens of cuts from flying glass.

Five days after the bombing, Hall's relatives and minister gathered at her bedside. Hall's lungs were failing and doctors thought

she might die.

"We prayed at her bedside until about midnight," Johnson said. "She made it through the night. There were other rough times. I think the hand of God was involved in this."

Because Hall was in pain that she could not endure, her doctors put her into a medically induced coma for a month so her body would have a chance to heal.

Gradually her 40 broken bones began to mend, the punctured lung healed. Two months after Hall was admitted to the hospital, she was released. Her rehabilitation lasted for years.

"They had a machine move my legs," Hall said. "I had to relearn how to walk."

Still suffering from breathing problems and in constant pain from arthritis brought on by her injuries, Hall is now permanently disabled and has not been able to return to her job.

Hall switched gears after she was able to walk again. She began helping others in need.

When saying her prayers she asked God, "Where do I belong?" Hall said.

"Two years ago I started doing volunteer work for the Salvation Army. I'm also a member of the women's Christian luncheon group," she said. "I work for God. I'm not seasoned but I spoke recently to a church group."

"Soon I plan to volunteer at the National Memorial Museum which was established in remembrance of the bombing victims," Hall said. "I've had two years of physical therapy along with emotional and mental therapy. My life is spiritually more rewarding than it ever was before."

Johnson said she admires the tremendous strength her friend has exhibited while dealing with more than five years of pain and suffering.

"Patty is one of the strongest people I know. To come through this and have your sanity is amazing," she said. "Patty has worked to make good out of something horrible."

Susan Walton has endured 25 surgeries, overcome obstacles, remains positive

BY ZACH TAYLOR
THE OKLAHOMA STAR

Susan Walton remembers going to the credit union at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building the morning of April 19, 1995, to make a deposit.

She remembers it was a beautiful spring day. She remembers being in a hurry so she could get some studying done for a college exam.

But those are the last solid memories Walton has from that day.

Just as the credit union opened, a bomb exploded, gutting the Murrah building and killing 168 people.

"I have no memory of that day, so sometimes it's hard for me to totally put it into perspective what did happen. I feel that it's a blessing that I can't remember."

Walton, among the hundreds of injured, suffered a skull frac-

ture and nerve damage behind her eyes so severe that she couldn't close her eyes. She lost six teeth and fractured her jaw in six places. Her spleen ruptured and her legs were severely crushed from the knees down.

Walton's ankle was broken so badly that three pieces of bone fell out of a hole in her foot while she was on the operating table. She also temporarily lost the ability to speak and had no identification on her.

"Later that day, I kinda have a hazy memory of laying on the ceiling," said Walton, who had been taken to the hospital. "I was a

Susan Walton, bombing survivor

Jane Doe until about 6:30 that evening because my billfold was still in the credit union.

"Every once in awhile a doctor or nurse would come to my side and say 'Honey we don't know what you're trying to tell us.'"

What they didn't realize was that Walton, whose ID was in her lost billfold, was relying on what she did remember - the sign language she was studying just prior to the explosion. She was spelling her name out with her hands.

The hospital called in an interpreter and Walton provided her name and her mother's phone number.

Since then, Walton has had 25

surgeries to put her back together, including 15 over a five-week period right after the bombing. Eventually, at least one knee will need to be replaced, if not both, and her right ankle will have to be fused.

"But my orthopedic surgeon says as long as I can stand the pain there's no need to do that yet," Walton said.

Until a year ago, Walton needed a nurse aide to help her with rehabilitation and day-to-day activities.

Today, she has overcome many of the obstacles placed before her and remains positive about her life. The 50-year-old Walton is able to walk with the assistance of a cane, a knee brace for her right knee and arch supports in her shoes.

She has returned to school, but has changed her major to public service. Walton also founded a non-profit organization, Suited for Success, that provides women

who are coming off welfare with clothing for job interviews.

"I try not to think about what I can't do. I try to think about what I can do or a new way to do things anyway," she said. "I kind of miss the simple things. Anything that involves getting down on your knees I can't do anymore and I don't guess I'll never be able to ski. That was one thing that I always wanted to try."

Despite all her progress, Walton said she isn't ready to watch the execution of Timothy McVeigh, the man convicted of the bombing.

McVeigh's execution in Terre Haute will be fed via closed-circuit television to Oklahoma City survivors of the bombing who want to watch.

"I think it's a just punishment," she said.

A year later, she had surgery on some vertebrae in her neck that were damaged in the fall.

Less than 48 hours after McVeigh's bombing, Rogers was back at work. Employees needed money to pay for funerals, and Rogers was determined they'd get it.

That's the only way she made it through the horror of watching 18 of her 33 employees fall to their deaths, she said. She knew 85 of the 168 people who were killed.

"I just stay busy all day every day," Rogers said from her large home in an Oklahoma City subdivision. "God has given me incredible strength that I didn't know I had."

She was 59 at the time of the bombing. Now 65, Rogers has retired - sort of. As she took a break from finishing her wicker furniture and cleaning out her garage, she said she's stayed involved with memorial foundations and fund-raising efforts. Money donated will pay for the education of the 14 children of those workers killed in her office.

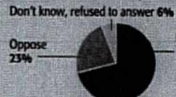
"I watched them get married and have babies," Rogers said. "They were my family."

"The legacy of my credit union girls will go on, and I'm proud of that."

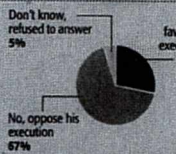
Opinions on McVeigh execution

More than two-thirds of Americans favor the death penalty, and that number is higher in the case of Timothy McVeigh, according to an Associated Press poll. Here are selected results.

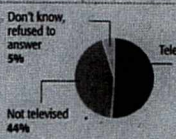
■ Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?



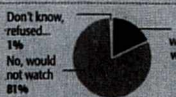
■ Asked of those who oppose the death penalty: As you may know, Timothy McVeigh is scheduled to be executed later this month for bombing the Oklahoma City federal building. McVeigh admits he did the bombing and has shown no remorse. Although you oppose the death penalty, would you make an exception and favor it in McVeigh's case or do you oppose executing McVeigh?



■ As you may know, Timothy McVeigh's execution is going to be shown on closed-circuit television to survivors and relatives of the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing who want to see it. Do you think his execution should be televised on closed-circuit for survivors and relatives of the victims of the bombing or not?



■ If you could watch Timothy McVeigh's execution on television, would you watch it or not?



The poll of 1,004 adults from all states except Alaska and Hawaii was taken May 2-6 and has an error margin of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

SOURCE: KRCR Media, Inc.

Credit union president survived while many in office perished

BY MICHELLE HOITKAMP
THE OKLAHOMA STAR

As Florence Rogers and her employees unlocked the doors to the federal credit union that Wednesday morning, everything seemed normal.

It was about 9 a.m. on April 19, 1995 - time for the credit union to open as employees in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building went on their first coffee break of the day.

Usually people lined up at the door, but today only one man was doing his banking as Rogers, president and chief executive officer of the credit union, sat down for a meeting with seven of her employees. Her secretary was close by.

The tellers waited on the man, and he made his way back to the elevators. The receipt was stamped 9:01 a.m.

"The fact that he had gotten around to the elevator, that's what saved his life," Rogers said.

Just seconds later, a blast ripped through the building. Rogers was blown backward, and the seven sitting in front of her dropped to their deaths in the rubble created when Timothy McVeigh's truck bomb went off.

Not a piece of paper was left in the credit union, but Florence Rogers was.

Only 18 square inches of flooring remained in the office. Rogers somehow was blown onto them. Someone pulled her to safety through a stairwell window.

Rogers climbed aboard a medical bus and for more than an hour rode around with other people who were bleeding, cut and bruised.

Realizing she wasn't seriously injured, she got off at medical triage unit along the street.

Meanwhile her son, who worked across the street from the Murrah Building, had rushed over when he heard the explosion. Desperately searching for his mother, he went to a nearby hospital where names of patients were being written on the wall as they were brought in. Minutes ticked as he watched the list grow.

Blocks away, a medical worker had sent Rogers to an apartment building down the street to use the phone.

But the only number she could think of was to a little restaurant in her hometown where her sister worked and where Rogers' friends had gathered to watch the events unfold on TV and wait word on her.

When Rogers called, her sister "just burst into tears" and said "Oh my God, you're alive," Rogers recalled. Her sons were paged, then the entire family gathered at her home to watch the rescue efforts.

Her only immediate medical need was a tetanus shot.

But a knot on her rear end from being catapulted through the air still hasn't gone away.

"It reminds me of Timothy McVeigh every time I look in the

mirror," she said.

A year later, she had surgery on some vertebrae in her neck that were damaged in the fall.

Less than 48 hours after McVeigh's bombing, Rogers was back at work. Employees needed money to pay for funerals, and Rogers was determined they'd get it.

That's the only way she made it through the horror of watching 18 of her 33 employees fall to their deaths, she said. She knew 85 of the 168 people who were killed.

"I just stay busy all day every day," Rogers said from her large home in an Oklahoma City subdivision. "God has given me incredible strength that I didn't know I had."

She was 59 at the time of the bombing. Now 65, Rogers has retired - sort of. As she took a break from finishing her wicker furniture and cleaning out her garage, she said she's stayed involved with memorial foundations and fund-raising efforts. Money donated will pay for the education of the 14 children of those workers killed in her office.

"I watched them get married and have babies," Rogers said. "They were my family."

"The legacy of my credit union girls will go on, and I'm proud of that."

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Tribune Star

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2001

SERVING TERRE HAUTE AND THE WABASH VALLEY

50¢ NEWSSTAND

TIMOTHY JAMES McVEIGH EXECUTED BY LETHAL INJECTION

'One life for 168'

McVeigh silent as he goes to his death

KARIN GRUNDEN AND JOHN D. WRIGHT
TRIBUNE STAR

In the end, the Oklahoma City bomber offered no remorse — only silence as he prepared to die. Survivors, one month and 23 days since he blew up a building and killed 168 people in the worst act of terrorism on American soil, Timothy McVeigh met his own death, a seemingly painless ending after a drug-induced sleep.

WARDEN LAPPIN'S POST-EXECUTION COMMENTS

Warden Harley Lappin addressed the media following the execution of Timothy McVeigh. His comments:

"Tim Harley Lappin, warden at the United States Penitentiary in Terre Haute.

The U.S. marshal is still in the execution facility completing his protocol and responsibilities. The court order to execute Timothy James McVeigh has been fulfilled.

"Pursuant to the sentence of United States District Court in the District of Colorado, Timothy James McVeigh has been executed by lethal injection. He was pronounced dead at 7:14 a.m. Central Daylight Time. McVeigh's body will be released to a representative of his family."

McVeigh, 33, remained quiet and expressionless as three drugs moved through his body and ended his life within four minutes of the first injection shortly after 7 a.m. Monday, marking the first federal execution since 1963.

McVeigh wore a white T-shirt, khaki pants and slip-on sneakers into the death chamber on the west grounds of the U.S. Penitentiary, Terre Haute. His hair appeared short and many who witnessed the death said he appeared thinner than at his trial. A sheet was pulled up tightly to his chest as he lay strapped on the gurney. He died with his eyes open.

In Oklahoma City, 232 survivors and victims' relatives watched a closed-circuit television broadcast of the execution, sent from Terre Haute in a feed encrypted to guard against interception.

Witnesses from the government, media and victims also watched from within the death chamber through viewing glass.

► Turn to SILENT, A4

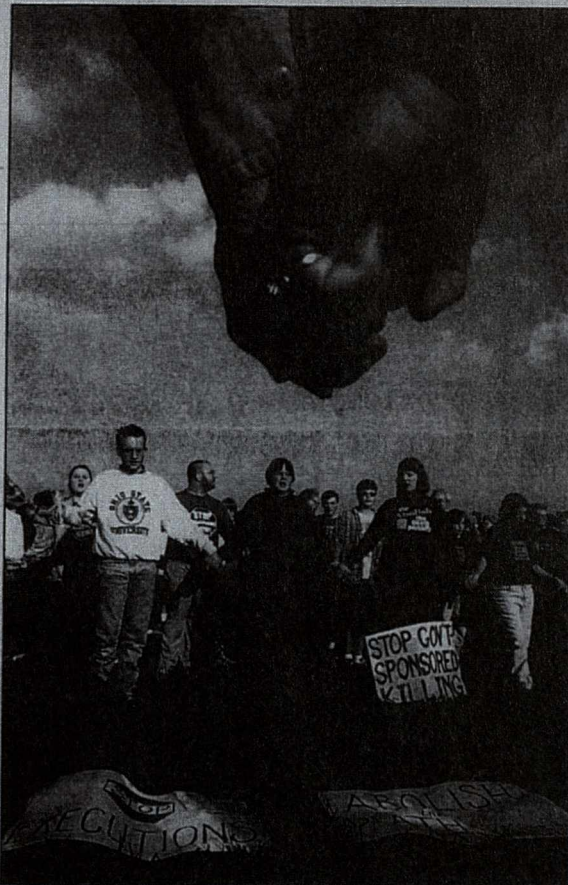


Photo-Star/Thomas C. Carr

Circle of silence: Demonstrators hold hands at 7 a.m. Monday on the grounds of the U.S. Penitentiary.

'Just burn in hell,' family witness would tell bomber

By HOWARD GREENINGER
TRIBUNE STAR

Behind tinted glass in the federal execution chamber in Terre Haute, Peggy Broxterman held up a photograph of her son, Paul.

Next to her inside the U.S. Penitentiary, Ray Fulton held up a photograph of her brother, Paul Lee.

Each woman pressed the photographs against a glass wall just inches from Oklahoma City bomber Timothy J. McVeigh.

"We wished maybe he could have seen them," Broxterman said.

She said one of three witness rooms in the execution chamber. But the room containing the 10 surviving family members had tinted glass, barring McVeigh's view.

McVeigh raised his head and gave a nod toward the survivors.

"He had his dead fish eyes, no expression in them. It was not an apologetic look, it was sort of a dead look-type thing," Broxterman said.

"I wasn't sad, it wasn't quiet. We all talked. Some people mentioned a delay [from a transmission line to Oklahoma City], but we didn't feel any delay. He died very peaceful, and that is a shame."

Broxterman was referring to another 232 surviving family members who watched the execution via closed circuit television in Oklahoma City.

The 70-year-old Las Vegas resident said she was relieved that McVeigh did not make a final verbal statement.

"I didn't want to hear a word he said, and I wasn't interested," she said. If given the chance, however, Broxterman said she would say one short statement to McVeigh — "Just burn in hell."

Broxterman's 42-year-old son was a federal agent killed in the bombing. Fulton is the sister of Paul Lee, 42, a U.S. Customs Service agent who died in the April 19, 1995, attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, which left 168 dead.

With McVeigh's execution, Broxterman said, "It is over and it is done. I do have sympathy for his family. I think it is a terrible thing what he did to his family and the name McVeigh."

INSIDE

■ Few protesters celebrated the death of the Oklahoma City bomber, A4

■ Law enforcement agents had few difficulties, A4

■ The Timothy McVeigh execution through a camera lens, A5

Anti-climactic end to an American tragedy

By KARIN GRUNDEN
TRIBUNE STAR

The clock read 1:55 a.m. On any normal day, I still would have been in bed, with another five hours to sleep. But this wasn't any normal day. I was up.

This was the day I'd watch Timothy McVeigh die.

The drive to work was in darkness. I'd soon catch a ride to the U.S. Penitentiary grounds, and then to the penitentiary's training center, about a half mile north on Indiana 63. From there would be the trip to the death chamber where McVeigh would take his final breath — the first federal execution in 38 years.

I was curiously calm as the Bureau of Prisoner bus wound its

way along the wooded banks of the Wabash River, past armed checkpoints, the warden's home and finally the windowless, red-brick building where I would soon see Timothy McVeigh on a gurney, covered up in his neck in a white sheet.

I was among 10 reporters who disembarked the bus and were led into the media witness room.

Reporter Karin Grunden describes her thoughts and emotions during the execution of Timothy McVeigh.

► Turn to TRAGEDY, A4

Two teens arrested in connection with deadly blaze

Two Terre Haute teens were arrested for allegedly setting fire to a near northside apartment early Monday morning that left two children dead and their mother critically burned.

John Cloyd, 18, of Terre Haute, and a 16-year-old male juvenile were arrested by city police late Monday morning after being brought to City Hall for questioning. The two could face murder charges.

Cloyd and his accomplice also may be charged with arson for setting the fire.

Complete details on Page C1



Final Statement of Timothy McVeigh

Out of the night that covered me,
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
I think someone else may be
For my unrepentant soul.

In the full light of circumstance
I have not shed one cruel drop
Under the bludgeoning of these
My hands to bleed, but unbound.

Before this place of death and pain
I have not shed one cruel drop
Under the bludgeoning of these
My hands to bleed, but unbound.

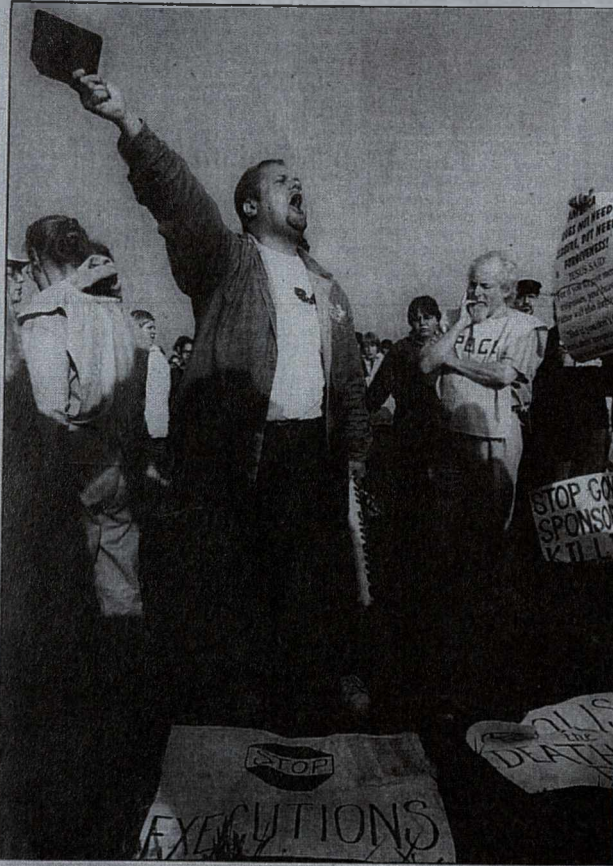
It matters not how stark the gate,
How charged with guilements the wall,
I am the master of my fate;
I am the captain of my soul.

Final statement: Timothy McVeigh had no final words before his execution was carried out. Instead, he asked that a final written statement be given to witnesses. At right is a copy of that final written statement — a 19th century poem titled "Immaculate," written by William Ernest Henley — signed by McVeigh and dated June 11, 2001.



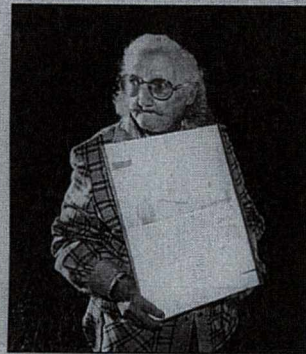
Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods (from left) Sister Joan Slobig, Sister Ann Casper and Sister Suzanne Brezette participate in the 168 minutes of silence for the 168 Oklahoma City bombing victims before the execution of Timothy McVeigh at the U.S. Penitentiary.

The Final Hours



The Rev. Fred Smith, of Atlanta, Ga., begins to preach just minutes after 7 a.m. in the anti-death penalty area on the grounds of the U.S. Penitentiary on Monday.

Both opponents and supporters of the death penalty spent the hours leading up to – and the moments during and after – the execution of Timothy McVeigh in vigil and demonstration. Expressing their differing opinions on the issue, some pondered McVeigh's act of terrorism and its implications, while others prayed for the victims, families and for an end to the death penalty.



Alice Fitzgerald was among the small group of pro-death penalty demonstrators at the U.S. Penitentiary on Monday morning.



Marie Poking, 33, (left) and Bob Larson, 21, observe the 168 minutes of silence in the anti-death penalty area Monday on the grounds of the U.S. Penitentiary.

Photos by
Jim Avelis
Joseph C. Garza
Bob Poynter

Pro-death penalty demonstrators Mark Hines and Robert Israel hold signs to express their views early Monday morning, just before the execution.



Terre Haute resident Larry Hughes reads a book while waiting for the execution of Tim McVeigh Monday morning at the U.S. Penitentiary. Hughes said he was "just here to watch the circus."



Amy Robertson of Salina, Kan., remains in the anti-death penalty protest area as other participants prepare to board the bus Monday morning after the execution of Timothy McVeigh.

TRIBUNE-STAR EDITORIAL

History, justice and Timothy McVeigh

THE ISSUE

The execution of Timothy McVeigh

OUR VIEW

With execution over, we can now look ahead

Perhaps now we can look to brighter days

The execution of Timothy J. McVeigh was the final page in a horrible and infamous chapter in our history.

McVeigh himself wrote the opening words Sept. 13, 1994, when he began a plot to repay his government for fiery Waco and bloody Ruby Ridge. A few days later he bought the first ton of ammonium nitrate at a Kansas farm co-op for a simple but murderous homemade bomb.

Seven months later, on April 19, 1995, he punctuated his terrible saga when he detonated the fuel-and-fertilizer device in Oklahoma City, gutting the nine-story Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. The toll: 168 unsuspect-

ing men, women and children dead, hundreds more injured.

A jury of McVeigh's fellow citizens summed up its entry June 2, 1996, in Denver: guilty on 11 counts of murder and conspiracy; guilty of masterminding and carrying out America's worst act of domestic terrorism. Two weeks later, a unanimous sentence from the same jury sealed McVeigh's fate.

Early Monday, the warden in a Terre Haute prison had the final word when he signaled for the dose of deadly drugs to be pumped into McVeigh's waiting body.

Timothy J. McVeigh is gone, made small by death.

If only death could also rewrite memory of the twisted man and his brutal act into no more than a single, small footnote in history. The innocents he slaughtered, though, the children and men and women whose loved

ones will never hear them laugh again, they deserve much more.

They deserve endless pages in which we chronicle their lives.

They deserve a special place in our national consciousness.

As distasteful as McVeigh's execution was, for the nation it embodied an essential culmination of justice — a statement underscoring the inescapable nature of personal responsibility. For the families of his victims we can only hope that his demise, the final grim effect of his own dark cause, brought a closure of sorts.

We know they will never forget their losses, and our hearts go out to them. But with McVeigh finally gone, perhaps he can allow time to begin to heal the wounds he caused. Perhaps now we can all begin to focus more on brighter days ahead than painful days endured.

It's time to execute your television sets

As McVeigh Day approached yet again — his execution was still on for June 11 at this writing — Americans should have given some thought to executing their televisions. Or at least shutting them down for the day.

Think of it as a concession to decency, or a protest of its vulgar opposite. For little can be less decent than the media spectacles planned as part of McVeigh's final send off. I'm already weary of the news-event soundtracks — those tragic/dramatic mini-scores that get written at times like this — even before they're played.

The O.J. trial had one. Hostage situations always have one. The Oklahoma City bombing had one. For McVeigh, I imagined a somber, bass-filled dirge. Silence would have been nice.

The networks were more ready to roll than ever, having had a month to fine-tune the details since McVeigh's initial execution date was postponed. As they approached the next date and time — slated for 7 a.m. Monday — the media was like the Roman legion heading off for Germania.

In the preceding days, Terre Haute, Ind., where McVeigh was executed, and Oklahoma City were transformed like movie sets as media troops occupy city streets, build scaffolding and platforms, and erect tent cities among miles of wires and cables.

Celebrity talking heads were doubtless getting last minutes hair cuts and highlights in preparation for one of the greatest ratings contests to come along in a while. They were busy brushing up on names and dates, scanning old clips for fresh angles and predicting solemn expressions in front of dressing room mirrors.

CNN reportedly was sending some 50 reporters to the two cities, starting Susan Cantrell and Bill Hemmer. (He's the one who looks 12 even with glasses.) Then there's Greta "The Point" Van Susteren. Between her legal analysis on "Burden of Proof" and "The Point," Van Susteren was doing everything but administering the lethal injection.

Brian Williams on MSNBC was slated to be in the studio at 6 a.m. (execution at 7 a.m.) working with reporters on the scene in Oklahoma City and Terre Haute. And mar-on-the-street interviews were predictable.

Cornering the empathy market, Katie Couric of NBC's "Today" show was in Oklahoma City, overlooking the site of the bombing where dozens (hundreds?) gathered to pay homage — to the dead or to Katie? Hey, isn't that Charles Gibson from "Good Morning America" over there?

So it is, and so it goes. It's easy to blame the media for such exploitation, but what would we have them do? Nothing has a nice ring to it. Ignore McVeigh (easy right, but ignoring the execution of the nation's worst terrorist isn't an option. If one news outlet covers it, every news outlet has to cover it. And like it or not, McVeigh is news).

But we the people don't have to watch it. Media people always defend themselves against criticism the way all merchants do: The market demands; the market provides. Give the masses blood, and they will love you for it. Entertain them, amuse them, keep them distracted by the spectacle and they won't notice that decency was sacrificed at the altar of television ratings.

But what if they threw an execution for a celebrity mass murderer and no one watched? A TV moratorium on Monday would have sent all the right messages. More important, turning off our sets would honor McVeigh's victims, who deserve better than the glorification of a narcissistic thug. Try it sometime. It's the red button next to the words ON/OFF.

Kathleen Parker, an Orlando Sentinel columnist, welcomes comments via e-mail at kparker@sun-sentinel.com, although she cannot respond to all mail individually.



KATHLEEN PARKER

Cats good neighbors as well as pets

I like cats. I don't know why it is that those of us who like cats feel we have to apologize. It's as if a warm-toned cat is an acquired taste — something like olives.

While I am not in the market for a cat, or any other pet, I confess that I like having Raymond, our neighbor cat, drop by our deck on his way out on his daily rounds.

Ray (he has never given me permission to call him by his nickname, but I make

bold) likes to sleep on or under the bench on our deck and he comes to the screen to let us know that he's around. We don't really need Ray's announcement. The birds become very agitated and vocal whenever he is on the porch.

We always had cats and dogs and birds and even pet crows when I was growing up. The cat was indoors and the cats were out. We did not clip the wings of Hap and Jake (the crows) to facilitate flight. In case Fashane and Sourpuss were on the hunt.

Our cat infestation really got out of hand. It all began with a beautiful gray cat given to my brother and me when we vacationed to Wisconsin one year. The previous owner sold us by insisting that it was a wildcat and a male. It turned out to be neither.

We persuaded Dad to let us take it home — a decision he regretted when "Johnny Car" escaped from the box behind Dad's seat and scaled the back of the seat, attempting to achieve greater heights by digging into the back of Dad's neck.

However, Johnny made it home and it didn't take long for us to discover that Johnny was really Johnny. She deposited three kittens on the doornap — our first clue!

Grandma, who fancied herself an expert in such matters, determined that the kitten with the long, silky black hair was a female while the two nondescript specimens were male. Over tears of protest, the little black kitten went to a new home in the country where the mice were fat and crows gave rich milk.

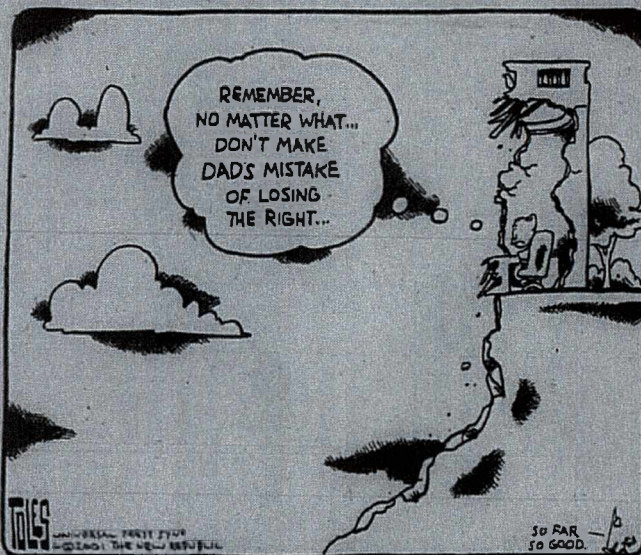
Grandma was 100 percent in error! Fashane and Sourpuss in due time produced additional kittens so that we ended up with 15 cats in and around the back door.

One day all the kittens were gone — only Fashane and Sourpuss remained and, strangely, never produced further issue.

It was years before Dad confessed that he had loaded them all up and headed south — unloading cats at every farm willing to add a mouse to the barn.

I haven't had a cat since — but I like them.

Liz Ciancone is a retired Tribune-Star columnist. Send comments in care of this column, P.O. Box 149, Terre Haute, IN 47804, or by e-mail at lciancon@tribstar.com.



READERS' FORUM

Forgiveness a spiritual matter

In the Kerry Tomasi letter published May 19 responding to a previous letter from Ruth Frost, one can only agree with his reasoning about the injustice of God forgiving a death row killer like Timothy McVeigh, at least by earthly standards. It just doesn't make a lick of sense to think he should be able to spend eternity in the presence of the Creator God, unless we separate the earthly and spiritual domains, and identify just "what do you think to believe is?"

My opinion is that even agnostics or non-theists believe in a supernatural being, and even try to identify and seek a relationship therewith. The evangelistic Christian community has poorly defined "Belief," which is not only to identify God but to seek after and follow His edicts, by confessing sins and repenting from them. These are just two of the basic facets of believing.

Kerry, you are straight on point in your statements by natural standards. However, forgiving a troubled soul is a spiritual matter which is to be handled by a spiritual God who cannot be measured by our finite capabilities. Thus Timothy has paid his human debt with his life, but his soul is in the care and under the judgment of God.

I refer you to the second chapter of 1st Corinthians as a good measure of our differences from God, as well as a great promise to those who follow. Thank God I don't have to judge Timothy's soul.

— Bill Jaeger
Terre Haute

Bomber got good media treatment

I don't understand why McVeigh got the red carpet treatment. He was written up in the paper more times than any president we have had, as much any way.

Why were you so nice to McVeigh? What did he do that's so nice he had to be written up in the paper and publicized? I think it's terrible for our children to be able to hear or read all this trash written and seen on TV. All of you involved should truly be ashamed.

I know a lot of you have children. What if it was your children that was in that bombing? Would you still feel the same way about McVeigh? I'm glad my two boys are grown up. It's possible this might happen again.

There will be others that have heard the red carpet treatment. He has gotten and will try it themselves.

I am an old lady and I've seen a lot in my time but never anything such as this. I say McVeigh did not

deserve to live and I have never felt this way about any other living thing or person. He had no feelings for anyone when he bombed that building.

— Pauline Sartin
Terre Haute

Pet owners need to be responsible

Please, please, please make sure your pet has a collar with a name tag and your phone number on it. Or make sure your pet has the rabies tag from your vet. Either of these will make it easier for people, like me, to identify lost animals and see that they get back home.

It breaks my heart to see an animal with no collar or tags identifying them. Put yourself in that animal's place and try to see how they feel, being lost. ID tags are not that expensive. Rabies vaccinations only cost around \$15 and you get a tag with an ID number on it. If you think you want a pet, please make sure you are ready to care for that animal properly for the rest of its life. If you do not think you would be willing to do that, then please, do not get a pet.

Regardless of the beliefs of many people thinking that animals are throw-away, they are not! Please be a responsible pet owner.

— Laura Batrum
Terre Haute

How to contact us

Letters to the editor can be sent by the following methods:

■ U.S. mail: P.O. Box 149, Terre Haute, IN 47808.

■ Fax: (812) 251-4321.

■ E-mail: opinion@tribstar.com. All letters must contain the signature, address and telephone number of the author or authors. Only the name and city of residence will be published. The address and telephone number will be used for verification purposes.